A SON INTERVIEWS HIS FATHER: DALLAS TALKS WITH BRET

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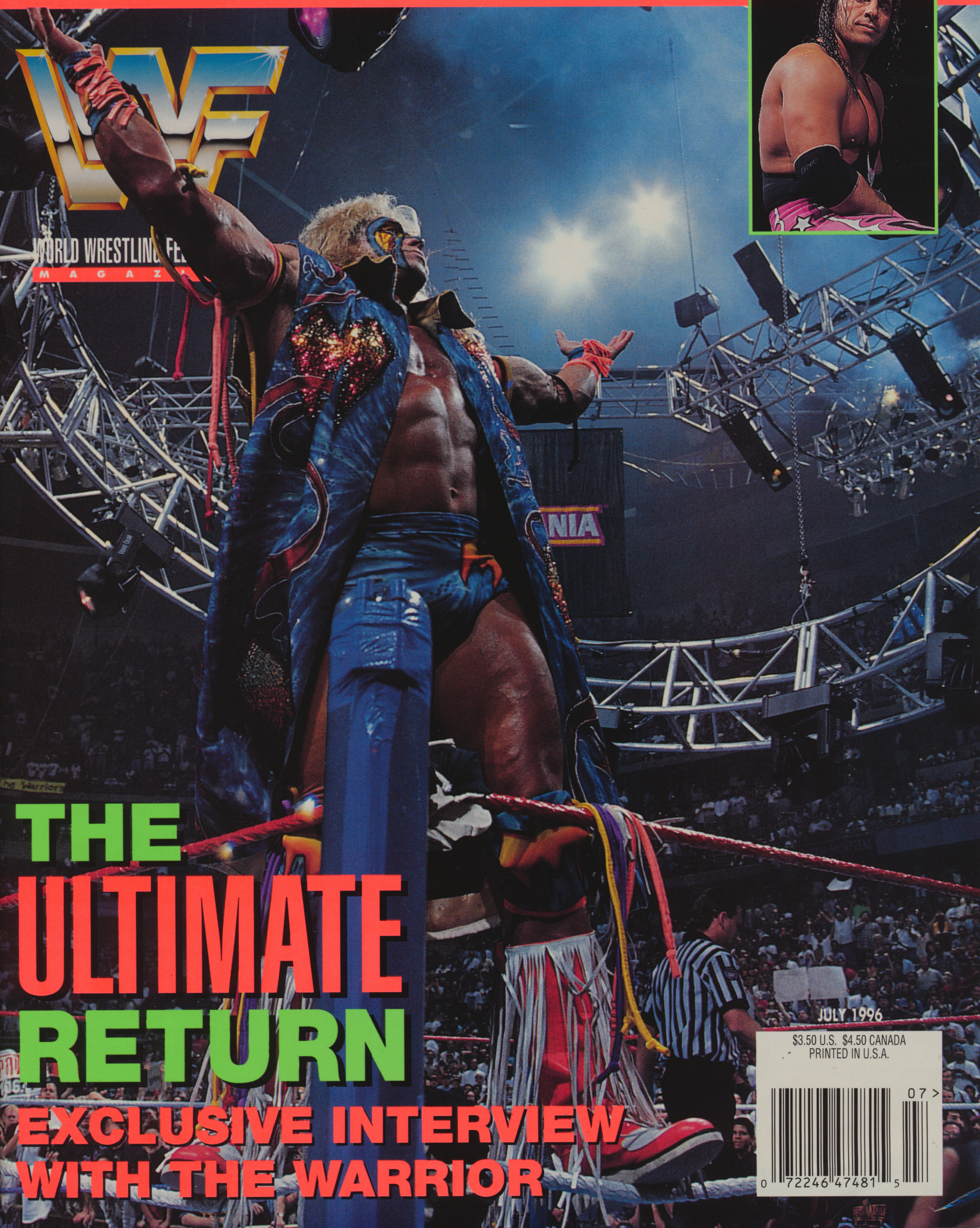

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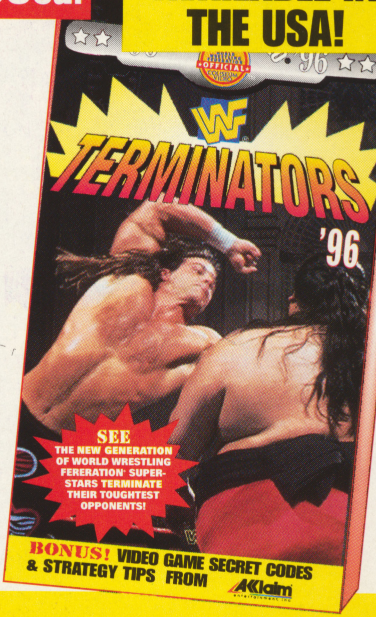
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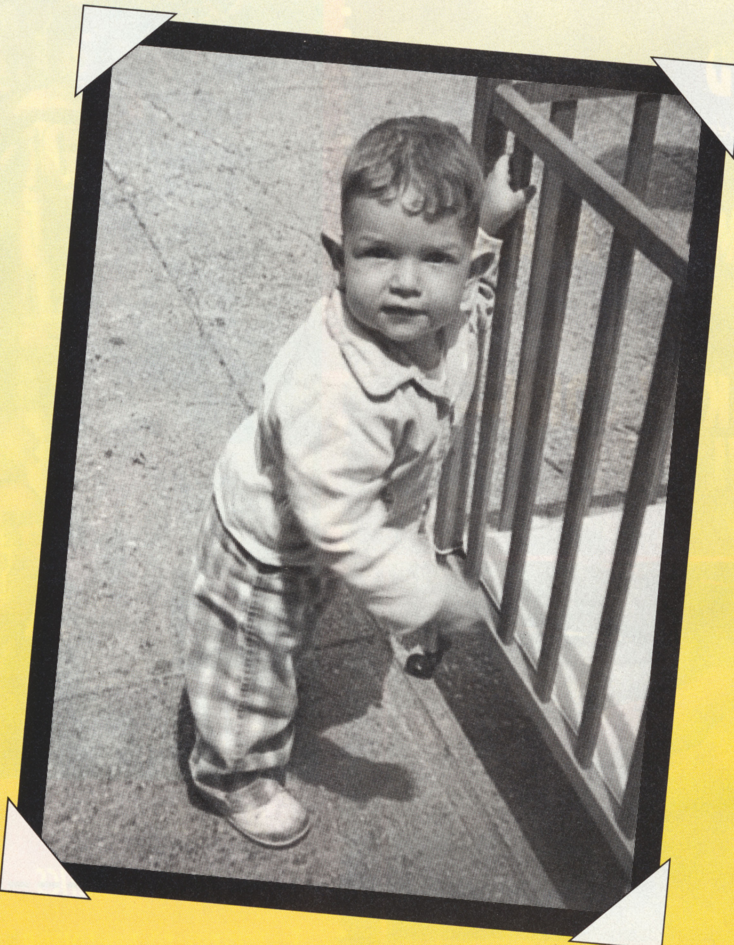
CAN YOU GUESS THE SECRET SUPERSTAR

Even though this month's Secret Superstar is normally looked at as an underdog, that doesn't keep his fans from "slapping him on the back" now and again.



HINTS:

1. This month's Secret Superstar made his wrestling debut in 1981 when he lost to Federation legend Angelo "King Kong" Mosca.
2. Prior to 1995, this month's Secret Superstar had lost what he estimates to be "at least" 500 consecutive matches!
3. That unbelievable streak was broken in the summer of '95 when this month's Secret Superstar "amazingly" reeled off four victories in a row!
4. "You have to have the attitude of a leader and not of a follower" is the motto of this month's Secret Superstar.

THE SECRET SUPERSTAR IS: ____________ ____________

ANSWER ON PAGE 64

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FEDERATION FANatics

Name: Jennifer Ballou
Age: 13
Hometown: Hamden, Connecticut
School: Hamden Middle School
Grade: Seventh
Future Ambition: To be a nurse
Favorite Federation Superstar: Shawn Michaels
Least Favorite Federation Superstar: Hunter Hearst-Helmsley
What I like best about the World Wrestling Federation: Monday Night Raw (because it is live)
If I were president of the World Wrestling Federation, I would: Not have the referee get distracted by anyone
What I do when I'm not watching the World Wrestling Federation: I like to cook and go to the movies

FAIRFIELD RECREATION

Name: Steven Piro
Age: 7
Hometown: Fairfield, Connecticut
School: Mill Hill Elementary School
Grade: Second
Future Ambition: To be a professional baseball player
Favorite Federation Superstar: Bret Hart, Shawn Michaels
Least Favorite Federation Superstar: Goldust
What I like best about the World Wrestling Federation: I like the magazines because they have really cool pictures
If I were president of the World Wrestling Federation, I would: Have a steel cage match at King of the Ring
What I do when I'm not watching the World Wrestling Federation: I play baseball, hockey, soccer. I love all sports

QUESTIONS, COMM

There is no time limit!!

World Wrestling Federation Magazine Interactive is a no-time-limit, no-holds-barred, communicative channel where you can connect with the Federation any day or night in order to bodyslam us with your opinions and views! We've opened up the ring ropes to offer you many lines of communication. Whether it be by fax, phone, E-mail or post office, our cauliflower ears are open to you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week! So, don't be a ham-n-egger!!! Spill your ideas, and voice your opinions—WE WANT TO HEAR `EM!

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WRITE us at:
World Wrestling Federation Magazine,
c/o Vince Russo, Editor,
P.O. Box 3859,
Stamford, CT 06905.

MAKE NO MISTAKES—IT'S HIM!!!

Letter:

Dear Editor,
I love the World Wrestling Federation, and I think the Ultimate Warrior is the best wrestler that ever lived. But almost everybody I know tells me that this Ultimate Warrior that is back and the one that was in the Federation from the '60s through the '80s is different. Is that true?

Todd Tieuli
Shrewsbury, MA

Dear Todd,
The '60s?! Todd, please! Don't let the Warrior know you said that! The Ultimate Warrior, who made his impact in the World Wrestling Federation in 1988 at *WrestleMania IV*, is in fact the same Ultimate Warrior who cleaned Hunter's clock at *WrestleMania XII*. Even though other federations have often tried to duplicate him, believe me, the one and only broke the mold the day he was born!!!

60 MINUTES EQUALS ONE HOUR!!!

Letter:

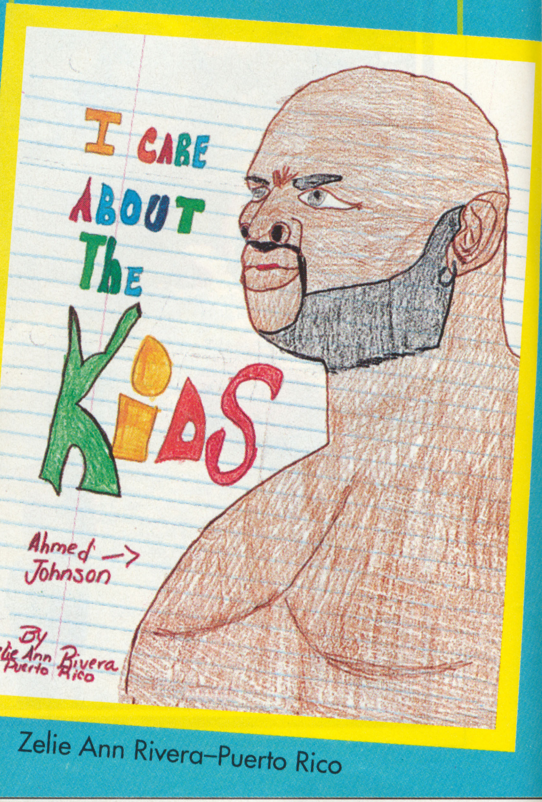
Dear Editor,
I just got done watching *WrestleMania XII*, and I feel that Federation President Gorilla Monsoon made the wrong decision in letting the 60-minute "Iron Man Match" go into overtime after the time limit had expired! I am really PO'ed at Gorilla for that, and I strongly believe that Bret should still be the champion!!!

Jamie Wray
Kapowsin, WA

Dear Jamie,
Many other Federation fans have written to me supporting that very same argument. To be honest, 60 minutes IS 60 minutes, and perhaps the match should have ended in a draw with Bret Hart keeping the belt... but it didn't. You can second-guess Gorilla all you want, but he is the president, and that was his decision. The good news? Don't think for one minute that Bret "Hit Man" Hart won't be back—because he will—IN A BIG-TIME WAY!!!

Letter:

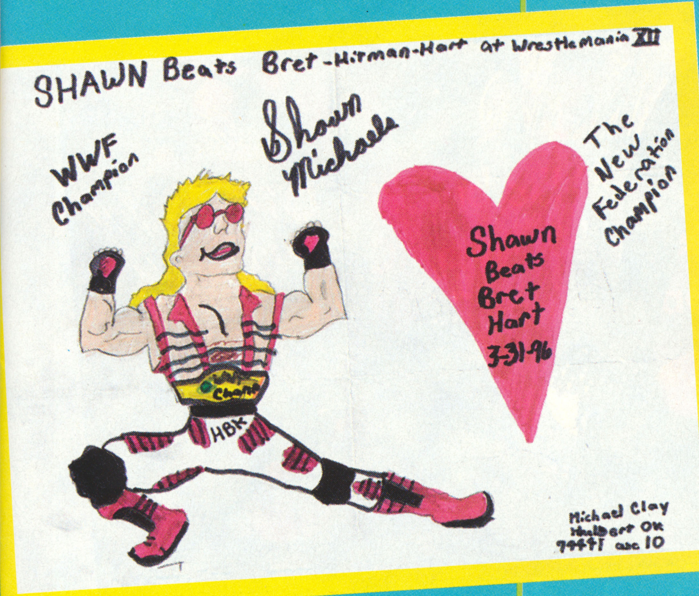
Dear Editor,
I have been a fan of the "Two Dudes with Attitudes," Diesel and


I CARE ABOUT The KIDS
Ahmed → Johnson
By Zelie Ann Rivera Puerto Rico

Zelie Ann Rivera–Puerto Rico

ents, and gossip

INTERACTIN' WITH THE WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION


SHAWN Beats Bret-Hitman-Hart at WrestleMania XII
Shawn Michaels
WWF Champion
The New Federation Champion
Shawn Beats Bret Hart 3-31-96
HBK
Michael Clay Hulbert OK 74441 age 10

Michael Clay–Hulbert, OK

Shawn Michaels, for as long as I can remember. I just don't believe that their friendship is really over, do you?

Monica Pinkeye

Dear Monica,
Trust me—IT'S OVER!!!
THE EDITOR

FAN RAINS ON SUNNY

Letter:

Dear Editor,
I've been reading all your commentaries since the day you became editor of *World Wrestling Federation Magazine*. I think you may have gotten a little carried away with your article pertaining to Sunny of the Body Donnas in the March issue! I mean, HELLO! I can't believe you! You call that a WOMAN?! Can you please try and take a look at Sunny again?! She is nothing more than a lousy, loud-mouth, egotistical and self-absorbed MORON!

Maste Anne
Cristobal
Manila, Philippines

Dear Maste,

Now, I'm no genius, but I just knew that letter had to come from another female! Bottom line: Since the article "The Power of the Fox" was published in the March issue, Sunny's team of Skip and Zip, the Body Donnas, was crowned World Wrestling Federation Tag Team Champion! I doubt very much if a full-fledged MORON could have helped make that possible. Perhaps there is a little "jealousy" involved here, Maste? Could be. COULD BE!
THE EDITOR

YO, DO YOU REMEMBER THAT GUY?

E-mail

Dear Editor,
I have a suggestion for *World Wrestling Federation Magazine*. How about doing profiles on superstars from the '80s. You could detail their greatest matches, wrestling styles and what titles they held. Some superstars might include: Ravishing Rick Rude, Demolition and the Junk Yard Dog. Think about it!

Joel Geraghty

Dear Joel,
Already been there, done that! In the new *World Wrestling Federation Raw*, there's a section entitled "Yo, Do You Remember..." where we take a look back and spotlight former Federation legends. AND, it just so happens that the July/August issue of *Raw* pays its greatest respects to none other than Ax and Smash of Demolition!!! NOW, you think about that!!!

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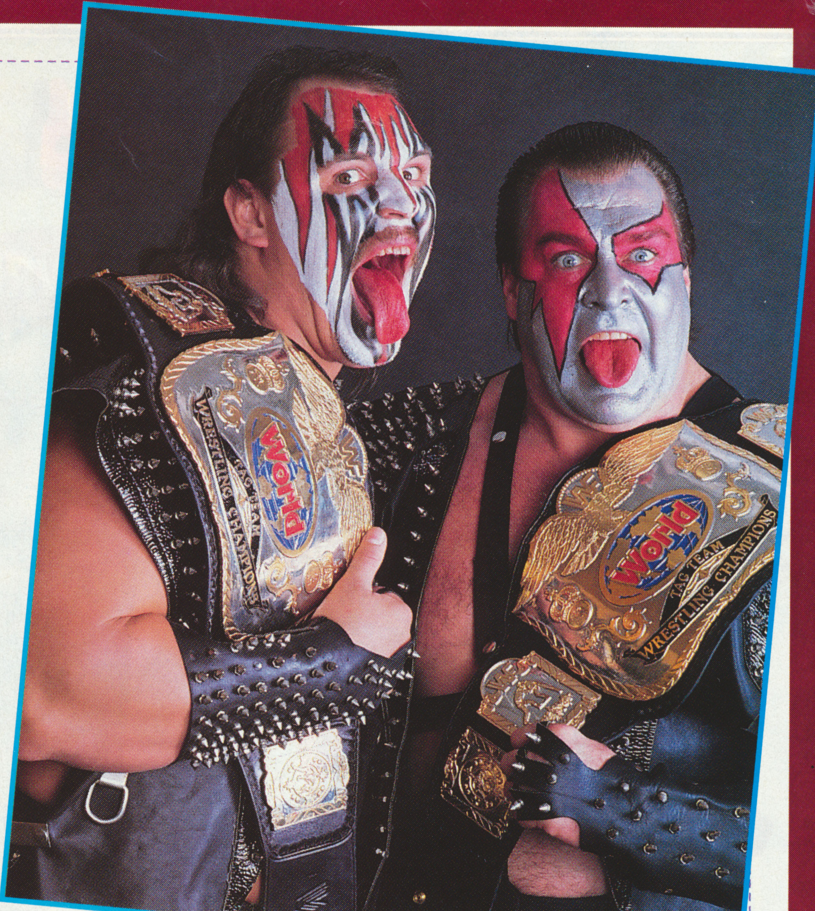
Rookies to LEGENDS

HEROES OF YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW



Here comes the Ax
Here comes the Smasher
The Demolition, walking disaster
Pain and destruction is our middle name

From 1987 through 1990, that heavy metal rift became the anthem for two of the most punishing athletes to possibly ever join as one in the World Wrestling Federation. There was Ax, there was Smash and then there was Demolition.

As three-time World Wrestling Federation Tag Team Champions, Demolition (managed by Mr. Fuji) dominated the late '80s by utilizing one of the most brutal ring styles in the history of sports-entertainment. With a reckless seek-and-destroy attitude, Ax and Smash used the combination of ferocious power and crippling wrestling maneuvers to devastate, then annihilate their victims. With their faces painted for war and their bodies clad in black and chrome, Demolition was there for one reason—and one reason only—to bring about TOTAL ARMAGEDDON!!!

From the bell, the strategy was often simple: ATTACK, ATTACK, ATTACK! Demolition had no time to waste. The sooner they could pound their opponents into oblivion, the better. At *WrestleMania IV*, the team of Rick Martel and Tito Santana, known as the Strike Force, found out firsthand when their usual speed and quickness were not enough to escape the brutal beating forced upon them by the heartless wrecking crew (this match is discussed in detail in the June issue of *Raw Magazine*.) Over the course of the next two years, Demolition would go on to capture the Tag Team Title on yet two more occasions.

In 1990, Ax and Smash added a new member to their tandem, Crush, but toward the end of that year the "terrible" trio decided to call it quits just months after being upset at *SummerSlam `90* by the determined team of Jim "The Anvil" Neidhart and Bret "Hit Man" Hart, the Hart Foundation.

The Demolition: Better say your act of contrition!

AX AND SMASH DEMOLITION

Superstars:
AX AND SMASH
Demolition
Combined Weight:
583 lbs.
Hometown:
Parts Unknown

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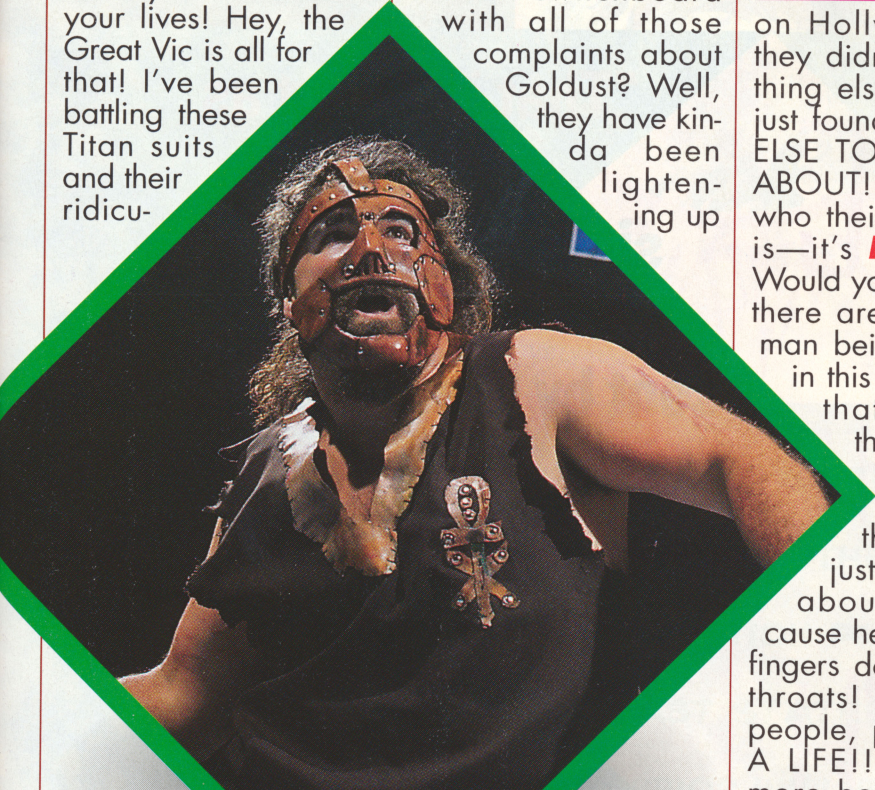
THE BITE

BY VIC VENOM

Now, I could be totally in the wrong about this... but... I don't think so. From the period of April 29-May 20, I sat in front of my '80 Mitsubishi and watched *Monday Night Raw*. Four weeks of *Monday Night Raw*, to be exact. During that time period, I saw many disturbing things: for instance, Shawn Michaels coming on to Diana Hart just like some 13-year-old punk who recently hit puberty! However, believe it or not, I witnessed something that was far more disturbing than that. Something that was so far beyond my belief that I had to replay the tapes back just to ensure that it wasn't the great Vic who was going nuts!!!! For FOUR STRAIGHT WEEKS, **James E. Cornette** WAS WEARING THE SAME DARN STINKIN' CLOTHES!!! Jimbo, baby, better take a little stroll through that Irish Spring, ya understand what I'm sayin'? With the British Bulldog by your side, you just may be managing the next World Wrestling Federation Champion! Please, Corny, introduce yourself to Mr. Bubble!!! Be a thinker, not a stinker! Give the ol' pits a shot of that Glade, ya know what I'm talkin' about? I mean, believe it or not, there is something about AQUA VELVA!!! Nuff said!

Next up, the **Ultimate Warrior**. I gotta tell you somethin' about this guy. For the longest time, I thought this maniac was the Ultimate GOOFBALL. I mean, the little Warriors, the snortin', the shakin' of the damn ropes—to me, this guy was just a slice short of a fruitcake! But, being the kind of guy that I am, I promised myself that I would give this guy a second look upon his return to the World Wrestling Federation. I mean, being the fair journalist that I am, that's the least I could do. So, I looked, and I listened and you know what? IT REALLY WASN'T HALF BAD!!! Now, don't get me wrong, the look is as hideous as ever, but the listen really isn't that terrible! Between all the grunts and the growls, what the Ultimate Warrior is preaching is the principle of "Self-Belief." He's encouraging you not to let the "Beliefs of the System" dictate your lives! Hey, the Great Vic is all for that! I've been battling these Titan suits and their ridiculous "Systematic Beliefs" for years!!! The beliefs that they're right and I'm wrong, and that if I speak up, then I'm some kind of a troublemaker... a rebel! Well, I'm not! I just refuse to let people tell me what to do, what to say and what to wear! I stand up for my beliefs whether they're right or they're wrong! So, I commend the Ultimate Warrior! I commend him for having the Spaldings to be himself!!!! Now, if I could just get him to stop shaking those ropes!!!



Remember those morons that were writing in and flooding the World Wrestling Federation switchboard with all of those complaints about Goldust? Well, they have kinda been lightening up on Hollywood. No, they didn't find something else to do; they just found SOMEONE ELSE TO COMPLAIN ABOUT!!! And guess who their latest victim is—it's **MANKIND**. Would you believe that there are actually human beings out there in this day and age that are taking the time to pick up their Bics or pick up their Ma Bells just to complain about a guy because he's sticking his fingers down people's throats! C'mon now, people, please—GET A LIFE!!! There are more horrible things going on in this world than a guy simply serving as a human tongue depressor!!! You're carrying on because you're claiming that Mankind is forcing his opponents to vomit? Well, you know who really makes me vomit? YOU IDIOTS!!! Get your heads out of the sand!!! This is the World Wrestling Federation! It isn't Barney's Playhouse!!! What, do you people live on Sesame Street? Do you have grouches living in your trash cans? Listen, anytime you feel like joining us here in the REAL world, please feel free to do so!!!

And, last but not least, will somebody please tell Marc Mero that he isn't GEORGE OF THE JUNGLE?!!! I mean, I haven't seen any lions or tigers or bears hangin' around here recently, have you? What's his gig? This Tarzan act just isn't gettin' it for me. Cheetah, maybe, but Tarzan... NO WAY!!! He calls himself a "Wildman"? PLEASE!!! Now, in my book, Spicolli from *Fast Times at Ridgemont High*, that was truly a real WILDMAN! HOWEVER, **Sable**, on the other hand, is a much, much different story. Now, there's a cat that can claw me ANYTIME!!! If she ever wants me to "Call the Wild," NO PROBLEM!!! Somebody just find me a phone—QUICKLY!!!

See ya round, PUKES!!! WF

TALES FROM THE TURNBUCKLE

All You Need To Know

THE "KING OF THE RING" ROYAL PROMOTION

Anyone who sends in their King of the Ring cable or satellite bill will receive a free three-month trial subscription to World Wrestling Federation Magazine. Then, in a separate random drawing, one grand prize winner will win a lifetime subscription to the magazine. All bills must be received no later than August 30.

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QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"That is about as sincere as flowers sent by Marge Schott!"

—Jerry "The King" Lawler on Shawn Michaels, addressing the Diana Smith allegations.

IT'S OFFICIAL!!!

Sunny is now THE MOST downloaded celebrity on American Online!

The announcement was made just last month when Sunny herself broke the exciting news in an Online auditorium jam-packed with thousands of her adoring fans! In an effort to show her gratitude for their support, Sunny autographed a special photo, available by download only, exclusively to individuals attending the auditorium.

Even with fierce competition from the likes of supermodels Elle Macpherson and Cindy Margolis, Sunny prevailed with over 300,000 hits to her photo library. Upon first hearing the news, Sunny unabashedly quipped, "This is very flattering and a great honor, but then again, what else would you expect with a physique like mine?"

Not only is Sunny shining on America Online, but, in other cyberspace news, she has recently been named No. 7 on People Magazine online's list of the world's 50 most beautiful people. Long established as the leader in the sports-entertainment industry, the superstars of the World Wrestling Federation are also making their mark alongside more traditional worldwide celebrities, including Brad Pitt and Tom Cruise, who also appear on the People Magazine online list.

IF YOU'RE IN THE CHICAGO AREA ON JUNE 22...

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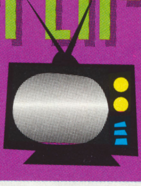

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1) All events are on Sunday at 7pm ET. 2) Replays for all in Your House events at 9pm ET. 3) Replays for all five other events are at 10pm ET. 4) Encores for all five other events are the Tuesday following the event. The times of the encores are 8pm and 11pm ET.

LACE UP THEM BOOTS AND LET'S PLAY SOME TRIVIA!!!

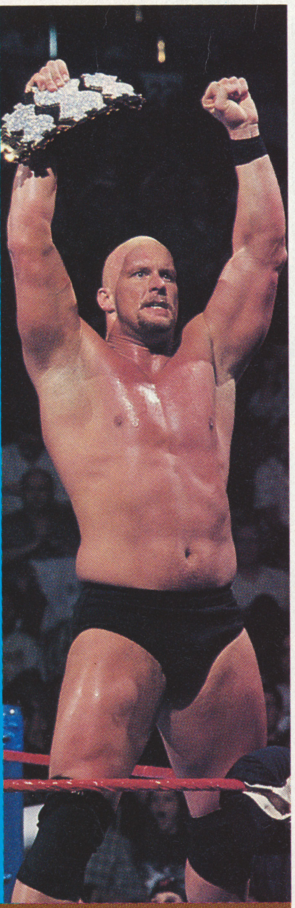
The month of June is a "Summer's Celebration" for WWF Trivia, the brand-new NTN automated trivia game featured exclusively in the World Wrestling Federation (WWF) area on America Online.

Every day, starting Saturday, June 1, and continuing through Saturday, June 29, the individual who earns the highest trivia game score will win a World Wrestling Federation Prize Package consisting of a Raw T-shirt, hat, World Wrestling Federation Raw Magazine and two complimentary hours on America Online. Daily winners will be notified by e-mail the following day.

The special promotion culminates in the "Grand Championship NTN World Wrestling Federation Summer Celebration Trivia Challenge" open to all who want to participate. The Grand Championship winner from the contest will also win a trip for two to SummerSlam.

YOU DON'T SAY

Talk about Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde!!! Rumor has it that in his free time Stone Cold Steve Austin is a bigtime ANTIQUES COLLECTOR!!! That is odd, unless, of course, the antiques he's collecting are medieval torture devices!!!



TOP 5 REASONS WHY SUNNY HAD NO INTEREST IN BECOMING A GIRL SCOUT

1. Because of her curvy figure, she refused to have anything to do with "Brownies."
2. Her golden tan would clash with that "hideous" green outfit!
3. Doing "good deeds" was just never her thing.
4. "What do you mean sleep in a tent? You mean like in outside?!!!"
5. "I wouldn't even think about selling my COOKIES!!!"

ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT TOUR DATES

June

22nd–Winnipeg, ONT, CN

23rd–Milwaukee, WI (King of the Ring)

24th–Green Bay, WI (Raw)

25th–Lacrosse, WI (Superstars)

26th–Madison, WI

27th–Louisville, KY

28th–Indianapolis, IN

29th–Detroit, MI

30th– Pittsburgh, PA

July

5th–East Rutherford, NJ

6th–New Haven, CT

7th–Providence, RI

11th–Albany, NY

12th–Worcester, MA

13th–Portland, ME

14th–Bangor, ME

THE ULTIMATE INTERVIEW

WWF MONDAY NIGHT RAW
WWF MONDAY NIGHT RAW

Many legends, heroes and role models have carved their names in the squared circles of the World Wrestling Federation before, but when you say the word ICON, perhaps only one man can live up to that reputation.

The Ultimate Warrior is arguably one of the greatest sports-entertainers EVER in the history of the World Wrestling Federation! When he exploded into the Federation in 1988, it was simply... never to be the same. With the fury of a magnificent lightning bolt, the Warrior ignited the Federation and its fans with his spectacular ring energy and excitement. Within only a matter of months he captured the World Wrestling Federation Intercontinental Title, and from there on in, the entire world knew that it would only be a matter of time before he fulfilled his destiny... that of becoming the World Wrestling Federation Champion.

Inevitably, that unforgettable date in Federation history came on

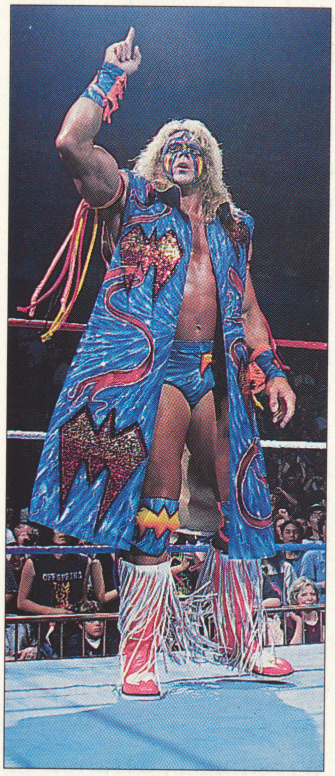
April 1, 1990, at *WrestleMania VI* when the Warrior pinned then "immortal" Hulk Hogan to reach the highest plateau in sports-entertainment—a plateau that very few men ever reach. However, just as quickly as it began, it seemed to end. Without any warning or explanation the Ultimate Warrior disappeared from the World Wrestling Federation never to be heard from again.

That is until now.

In this exclusive interview, we will be taken into a world that up until this time we knew very little about. A world that is called "Destrucity." A world where only Warriors exist.

EDITOR: First question: There has always been a certain mystique surrounding the Ultimate Warrior. Can you explain to the fans in your own words exactly WHO the Ultimate Warrior is?

WARRIOR: I live outside the system... true to myself. I don't live my days trying to seek the approval of others. Ninety-nine percent of the world does that; the Warrior doesn't. That is what creates the mystique. The Ultimate Warrior represents the guy who doesn't allow people to cross his line without making it very clear that he knows they have, and he's not going to stand for it. He represents an aggressive, outward expression at what everyone in some point and time feels. An example is: Let's say you're at the grocery store in the express line and the person in front of you has 30 items. The Warrior is the guy that would !@#$% throw him out of the !@#$% line, thus setting the record straight! Inside the squared circle he was and will again be the most intense !@#$% that the sports-entertainment world has ever seen! So many people just exist in the system, living their entire lives under the control of other people's rights and wrongs, opinions and judgments. The Ultimate Warrior is the guy who says... no more, no matter what the consequences! I live my life each and every day outside the ring the very same way—obviously in a verbal form of expression unless, of course, someone steps over my line!



I live outside the system... true to myself. I don't live my days trying to seek the approval of others.

EDITOR: You were gone from the World Wrestling Federation for a period of three and a half years. Where were you, and what were you doing during that time?

WARRIOR: I was practicing the living of a life true to one's self, living life in the way of a Warrior. I define it as "Destrucity." The dissection of that word means creating a truce between one's destiny and one's realty. Living within the reality of the system, yet staying true to one's destiny. It's living one's life according to a practice and commitment of eight distinct disciplines: physical, belief, moment master, attitude, commitment, association,

THE ULTIMATE INTERVIEW

integrity and wisdom.

EDITOR: It appears that you took the time to get to know the "Warrior from Within" during your hiatus from the World Wrestling Federation.

WARRIOR: The things I learned about the Warrior during that time are far too numerous to go into detail over. In general, I've educated myself as a businessman out in the real world, and that in itself is priceless. Everyone should take the time out to experience that situation; it is something that no academic institution can ever give you. I've changed in some of my ways, but that's what the challenge in one's life is all about. I've now become comfortable in those ways... the ways I live my life as a human being. If my ways offend other people... I am not concerned. I learned something new about myself that is actually very, very old... that is my destiny to be the man I am... the man who is called WARRIOR.

EDITOR: Why did you choose what many call "the peak" of your sports-entertainment career to leave the World Wrestling Federation?

> I also have no sympathy for people who refuse to "get it" as far as having some form of physical discipline in their lives. The physical discipline is the easiest way to create change in your entire life.

WARRIOR: The truth is that Vince and I had a falling out, but in time we were both able to put our differences aside. We both understood the value of bringing back what never died but rather disappeared... the "Spirit of the Warrior." As for those who believe they have seen me at my peak... well, as you know, I'm a firm believer in belief, but what others choose is of no concern to me. I live my life climbing a mountain that has no peak or summit... just an evolution of better and better.

EDITOR: Why do you think that there is such a sincere and real belief by the fans of the World Wrestling Federation in the Ultimate Warrior?

WARRIOR: For the simple reason that when you say "Warrior" to people, they immediately have a vision of someone fighting for what he or she believes in a very noble way. Someone willing to give his life for the beliefs he has. A most recent, globally recognized version of the Warrior concept was told in the movie *Braveheart*. It's the feeling that people get in their vision of whatever they believe it is that a Warrior represents. The Ultimate Warrior specifically represents the guy everyone wants to be at some point and time in their life when their line has been

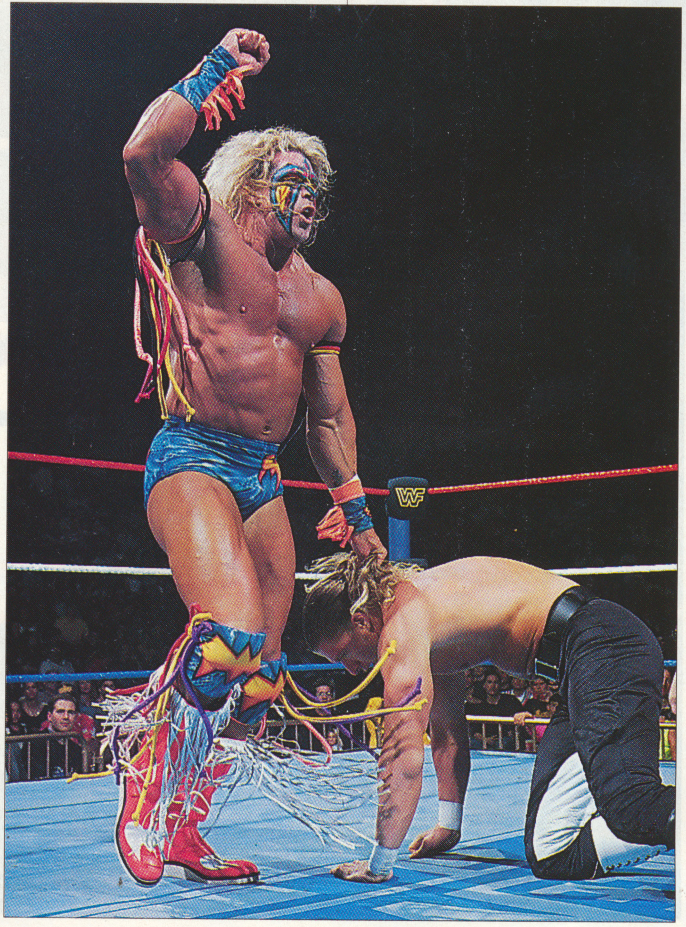
crossed or they've been wronged unjustly. He shows no hesitation in acting upon his intuition instead of reacting to what has already been done to him. He is the outward expression of "living your life in the way of the Warrior," i.e., DESTRUCITY. It's an insight I live my life by both in and out of the ring. An insight that everyone has, but only few utilize. Believing the Warrior within you. The spirit that one has.

EDITOR: Today what is most important to the Ultimate Warrior?

WARRIOR: Staying true to my beliefs and the disciplines of Destrucity. The entire concept of fulfilling what I believe—and doing so within the system (what is reality)—is my destiny. However, I do so according to my own rulebook, which means telling the system to &%!@#$% off, as I do when deemed necessary. What is priority within those beliefs changes all the time. Those that say differently are really only lying to themselves. Maintaining a focus to stay on the moment allows me to make whatever I'm doing at any given moment the most important thing at that particular point in time.

EDITOR: How important is the World Wrestling Federation to the Ultimate Warrior?

WARRIOR: Challenges are what make me tick. Challenges get me off. Returning to the World Wrestling Federation means challenging myself in more ways than just what takes place in the ring. Being the Warrior is my life; sports-entertainment is just a small chapter in that big picture.



Coming back to prove to myself that I can accomplish the very things that others say I can't is my reward. Warriors who appreciate my performances are really showing their appreciation for someone who is cut from a different mold. Someone willing to make the sacrifices to get the job done. Being a sports-entertainer for me is a commitment to those who love what I do—not the quest of maintaining, or rather satisfying, an irresponsible overblown ego. Bottom line: I can do it, and I can do it better than the best of them, or... I can leave it alone. That is one aspect of sports-entertainment and entertainment in general that I have never understood or admired—fame and the insecurities of the people in it. Therefore, I never made myself a part of it. It's totally ego-driven, and the world is !@#$% up because of those who don't have healthy egos to begin with. I have no desire to contribute by becoming an ego-maniac myself.

MONDAY NIGHT
RAW
WARRIOR

EDITOR: What else does the Warrior despise?

WARRIOR: Generally, I live my life from a platform of non-judgment. Beyond that, I am completely dumbfounded at the weakness of people when it comes to realizing that they "own" their own lives. I also have no sympathy for people who refuse to "get it" as far as having some form of physical discipline in their lives. I believe that physi-

People want normal. They want the gold watch at 65 and the little house with the little back yard. Very few want to challenge themselves and set goals that literally set the new standards. I am one of those who wants to be challenged—balls-to-the-wall style.

cal discipline is the easiest way to create change in your entire life.

EDITOR: What satisfies you the most?

WARRIOR: Whatever I happen to be involved in at any given moment. I love to be backed up against the wall with pressure and challenge. I'm at my best both physically and mentally then—and also the most calm, believe it or not. Now, as for the moment I'd most like to be caught in? The ones with my girlfriend Dana.

EDITOR: Looking back at your career, or your life for that matter, are there any regrets? Is there anything you wish you had done differently?

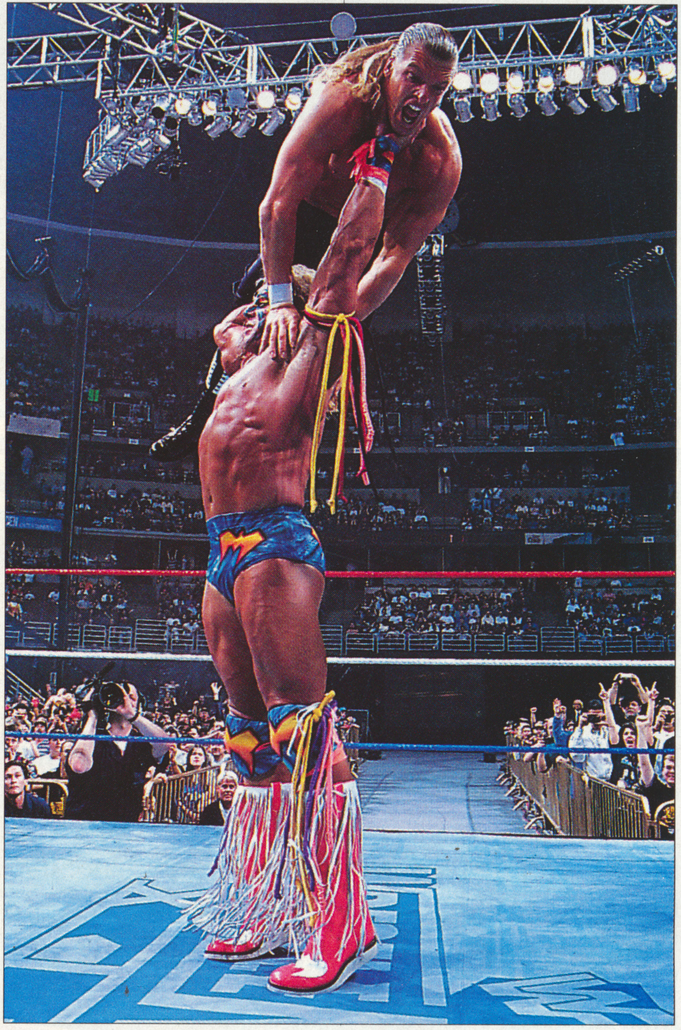
WARRIOR: No... on all accounts. My beliefs dictate that we are all where we believe we should be. It is our evolution of our beliefs that bring us the experiences we have. I never regret. I live with my choices... and their consequences.

EDITOR:: Let's turn our attention to the ring. How would you compare the "New Generation" of Federation superstars to those that you competed with in the late '80s and early '90s?

WARRIOR: It's obvious that the drawing power of the talent pool available a few years ago was much greater than what has been labeled the "New Generation"... PERIOD. You cannot deny that more of the new guys in the business today can "wrestle," but the best wrestlers don't generate the revenues that a "sports-entertainer" does. Look at the Ultimate Warrior character in comparison to "all" the talent that "is." That character set the still-unchallenged standard for intensity in the world of sports-entertainment. The fans are ready for what "was" and what "will be" again.

EDITOR: Can you go a little further in detail concerning your relationship with Vince McMahon, as it is today?

WARRIOR: It's only natural that Vince and I have formed some kind of a relationship over the years. I have respect for Vince for numerous reasons—mostly because he has a love for what he does, and he was, and still is, willing to make the sacrifices it takes to get the job done. That is something that very few people are willing to do. There are no secrets for success, and for the most part those that smell of success also smell of sweat. It takes both commitment and discipline to see things through, and that I have respect for. My absence has opened Vince's eyes to what he didn't have a complete sense of before. In that aspect I am much like him. A one-in-a-million. As an employer you get conditioned to think that everyone is expendable, and 9.99 times out of 10 that's true. People want normal. They want the gold watch at 65 and the little house with the



little back yard. Very few want to challenge themselves and set goals that literally set the new standards. I am one of those who wants to be challenged—balls-to-the-wall style. It took Vince some time to understand that I wanted to be like that in every aspect of my life, not just my ring persona. Bringing these new aspects to Vince and having him see them for what was really the first time was a valuable experience for both of us. When I first came to the World Wrestling Federation, I had a different agenda to fill... answering my own questions about what success really was. When and where does one achieve happiness in life and what constitutes it? That question now has definition. This time there is a different definition to the job that I have agreed to take on. This time the definition concerns the commitments that I'm willing to make in my life. Over time, Vince has longed to recognize that in himself—and more recently in me. That alone will broaden our relationship in new ways.

EDITOR: Do you now feel "loyal" to Vince McMahon?

WARRIOR: To Vince? No. To the Warrior and the character, the Ultimate Warrior? Yes. Vince is a big boy, and he runs a big company doing big business. In business, there is no room for any dependency on someone else's loyalty. I for Vince and vice-versa. Actually, Vince taught me that lesson, and even though at the time it was painful, confusing and at times made me very angry, it was in my best interest. In your lifetime there will be less than a handful of people with whom you can include "loyalty" as one of the traits of that relationship. Relationships of business can only begin to flourish when one understands this and accepts the fact that no one is responsible for me except me. Then, you have to be strong enough to speak openly about what you believe is right and what you believe is wrong and not allow anybody to wrong you... I mean, it's a matter of choice. You allow people to !@#$% you... or you don't. If you're OK with getting !@#$% and too weak to speak up, then accept that too. Maybe my relationship will grow with Vince in a way in which "loyalty" can be included... I certainly hope so, but for the present, we both have to work through our misgivings of one another's trust.

I have always been loyal to the Ultimate Warrior... always. He is my "business." He is the security of the family I wish to one day have. When I conduct my business about him, I say to myself, "If I allow someone to 12345 me over or take advantage of who I am, then I allow the who—or the whatever that did it—to literally take the food from the mouths of my children. There are no options in regard to this.

Beyond that, I know where home is, and I, as well as the Ultimate Warrior, belong in the World Wrestling Federation. He was brought to life here, and the Federation is the place where I will put him to rest.

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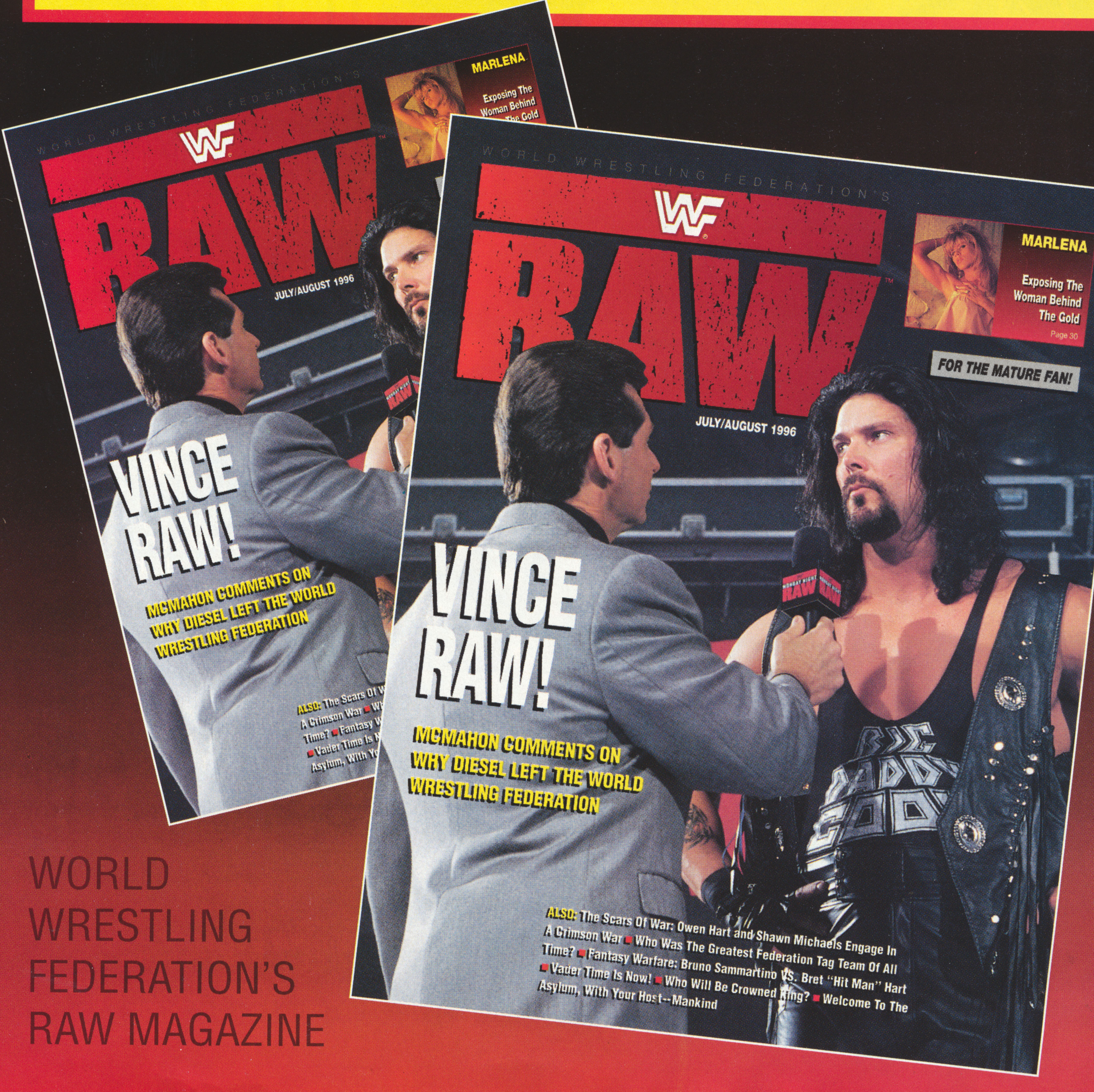


WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION'S

RAW

JULY/AUGUST 1996

MARLENA

Exposing The Woman Behind The Gold

Page 30

FOR THE MATURE FAN!

VINCE RAW!

MCMAHON COMMENTS ON WHY DIESEL LEFT THE WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION

ALSO: The Scars Of War: Owen Hart and Shawn Michaels Engage In A Crimson War ■ Who Was The Greatest Federation Tag Team Of All Time? ■ Fantasy Warfare: Bruno Sammartino VS. Bret "Hit Man" Hart ■ Vader Time Is Now! ■ Who Will Be Crowned King? ■ Welcome To The Asylum, With Your Host--Mankind

WORLD
WRESTLING
FEDERATION'S
RAW MAGAZINE

FORK IN THE ROAD:

ONCE, THEY WERE INSEPARABLE, BEST FRIENDS, WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS, THE CELEBRATED "DUDES WITH ATTITUDES."

Even as they feuded, their careers seemed eternally intertwined. When fans saw Shawn Michaels, it was widely assumed Diesel would be close by. Those days are over. Like childhood pals torn apart by the choices and responsibilities of adulthood, the Heartbreak Kid and Big Daddy Cool have seen their lives go in drastically different directions.

Today, Shawn Michaels is the most popular man in the sport of kings, holder of the Federation Title, the competitor most likely to set the tone for the mat wars in the 21st century.

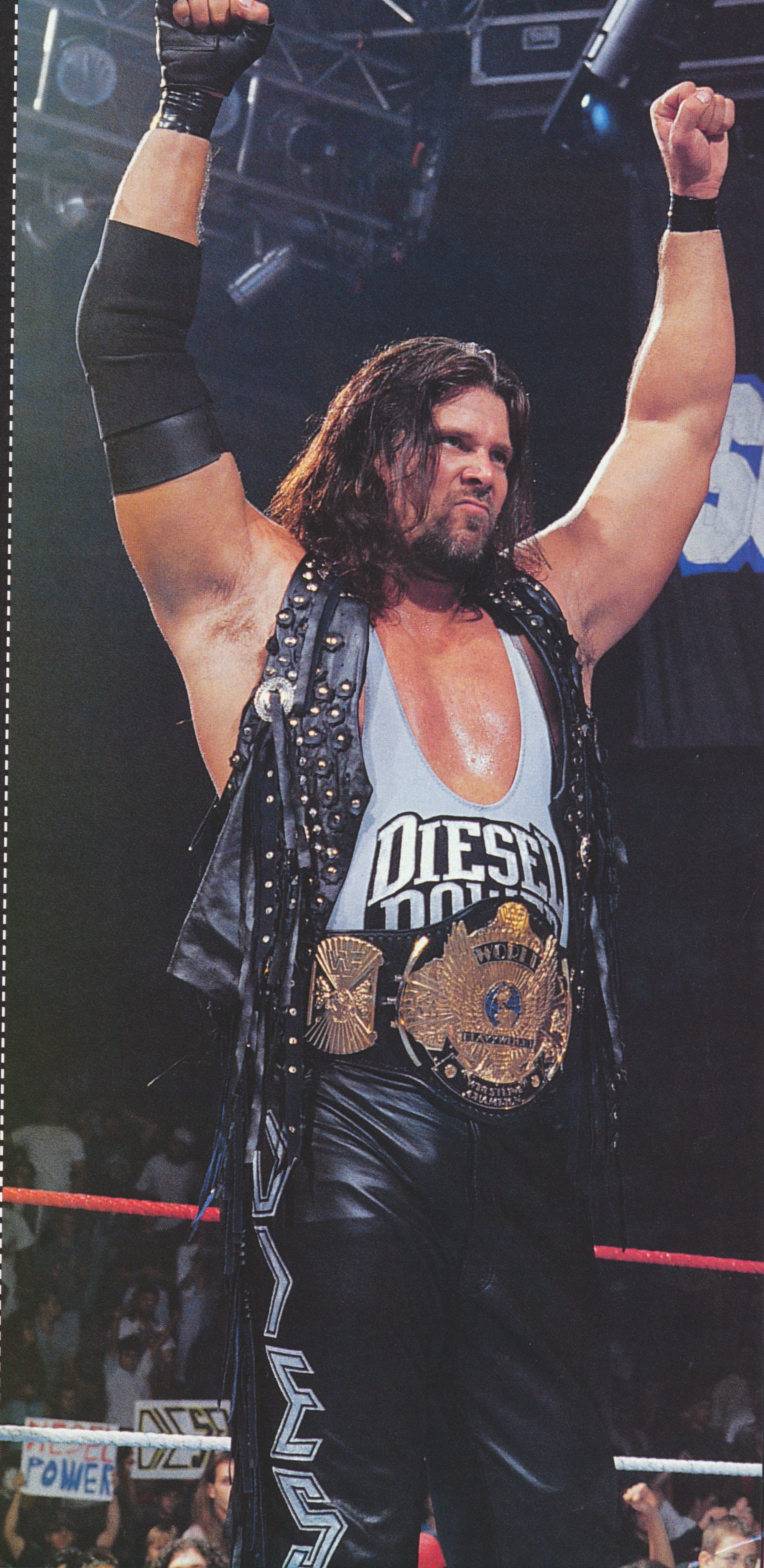
And Diesel? By the time this magazine hits the newsstands, he will have departed from the World Wrestling Federation, leaving behind a legacy that—despite its many high points—never reached its full potential. How did this happen? One year ago, Diesel was the man to beat in the World

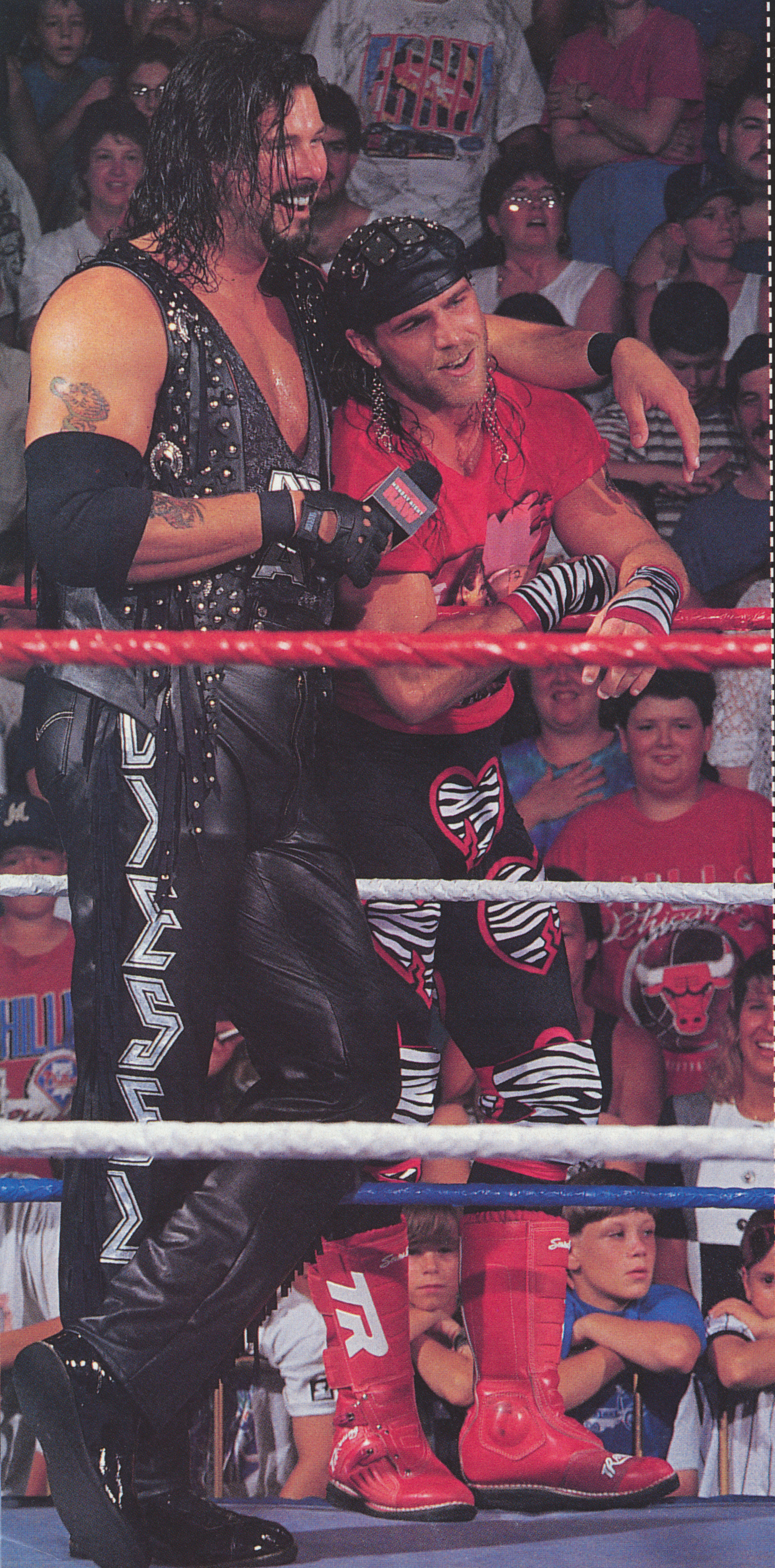
Wrestling Federation. After competing under a variety of names in lesser territories, he'd been rescued from obscurity, finding his identity as the leather-clad bad boy who hit with the intensity of an 18-wheeler.

In the Federation, Diesel played by his own rules and forced even his hated enemies to respect him. Then, in a very short time, it all slipped away—the championship, the glory, his own sense of infallibility. Diesel pointed fingers, blaming the "suits" at Federation headquarters in Stamford, Connecticut, and fair-weather fans.

DIVERSE PATHS FOR SHAWN AND DIESEL

BY KEITH ELLIOT GREENBERG





Part of what he said was justified. In their ardor to market Diesel to the shopping mall crowd, various corporate executives overlooked the untamed energy that boiled inside Big Daddy Cool's massive frame, the very qualities that propelled him to the World Wrestling Federation Championship. And spectators who bought his merchandise and shouted his name whenever he lumbered down the aisle with the gold around his waist quickly changed allegiances when Bret "Hit Man" Hart dethroned him. But—hey—that's wrestling.

The late Buddy Rogers, Pedro Morales and the Ultimate Warrior all lost championships. However, somehow each managed to keep the fire burning inside. Diesel felt the flames flickering out. And he never stopped to realize that his greatest fuel source was himself. "That's the problem with the blame game," observes an anonymous former contender for the World Wrestling Federation Title who experienced many of the same frustrations as Big Daddy Cool. "It's easy to say, 'It's Vince McMahon's fault. The fans are idiots.' But what about looking yourself in the mirror and seeing what you've done to cause your predicament? It takes a special kind of wrestler to do that. Shawn Michaels is one. Bret Hart is another. But when push came to shove, Diesel couldn't endure the rigorous self-criticism that a man needs to stay champion."

Some fans have said that Shawn is more talented than his old mate, but Michaels himself disagrees with that. "Even on his worst day, Big Daddy Cool can make the best of men question their decision to enter this great sport of ours," the champion admits. Indeed, in their classic battle at April's *In Your House*, Diesel came within a hair of recapturing the championship belt he once wore. Yet, when the final bell rang, Shawn managed to outclass him—not so much because he was the superior athlete of the two but because he was a much more focused wrestler.

"Every wrestler has a lot of things to get out of his system," says a longtime trainer. "And it's best if you do it before you're in the championship picture. Michaels has been in the World Wrestling Federation for seven years. He started out not as a singles competitor who was going to fight his way to the championship right away but as a tag team wrestler. He found a partner, learned from him and made his early mistakes as part of a team. By the time that he entered into singles competition, a lot of the kinks in his arsenal were already gone."

Diesel, on the other hand, had very little experience before he rocketed to the position of World Wrestling Federation kingpin. His Intercontinental Title win, Tag Team Championship triumph and conquest of the Federation crown came in rapid succession soon after he was brought into the World Wrestling Federation—as Shawn Michaels' bodyguard.

"No one can question Diesel's ability," says the trainer. "But in some ways he was a clumsy amateur. He never took the time to go to class—to learn what it really means to be a champion. Now, take Shawn Michaels. Michaels studies his opponent, educates himself on every weakness, acknowledges his own shortcomings and then he finds a way to compensate for them. Diesel relied too much on his strength and size to get by. Those are great characteristics to have—look how they helped Diesel—but not enough to dominate the game on a long-term basis."

Diesel is not fully at fault for his naiveté. Many of the most profound lessons in the mat wars come from experience. In his tenure in the World Wrestling Federation, Michaels has had the luxury of watching—and analyzing—the finest champions: Hulk Hogan in his prime, the Ultimate Warrior, Randy Savage, Bret Hart and Yokozuna. Shortly before ex-titlist Ric Flair left the World Wrestling Federation, Shawn made a special request to the Federation board of directors: He wanted the opportunity to step into the ring with the legend. Michaels got his wish, fought an exacting battle with the former champion and came away a wiser gladiator.

The Heartbreak Kid's incredible *WrestleMania XII* championship win over Bret "Hit Man" Hart came because Michaels had met his adversary before in the ring. Several years earlier, during Hart's first World Wrestling Federation Title reign, he put up the belt against Shawn at the 1992 *Survivor Series*. Hit Man was a more accomplished athlete at the time, and the Heartbreak Kid went down in defeat. But he never forgot the errors that Bret made during the match and used that knowledge to finally snare the gold in March.

The varying routes taken by Shawn and his former partner shed light on a frequently ignored topic: the importance of seasoning in retaining one's luster in the squared circle. When all is said and done, Shawn groomed himself to lead the World Wrestling Federation. Diesel did not. And that's why the Heartbreak Kid is where he is today and Diesel is someplace else. WF

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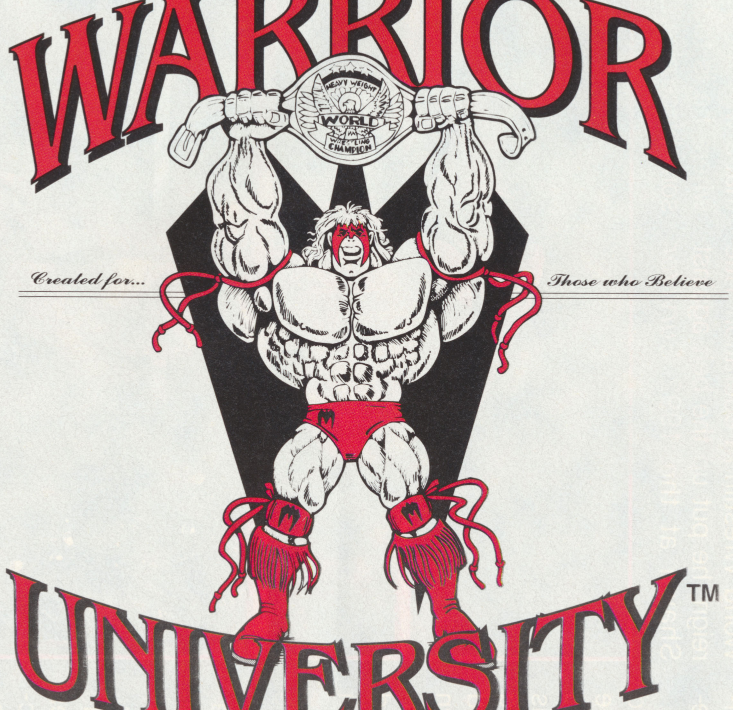

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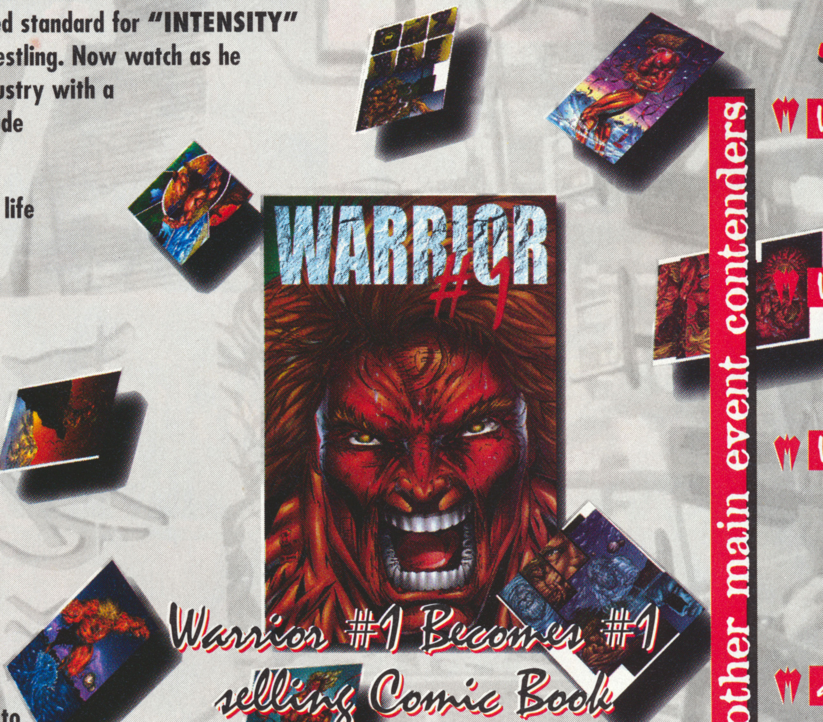

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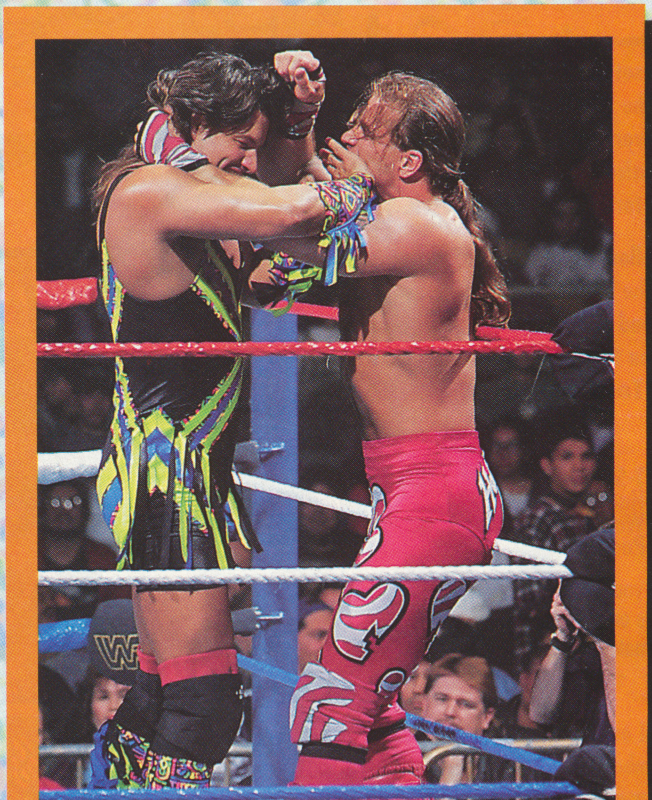
THE LIFE AND TIMES OF LEIF CASSIDY

LET'S DO THE TI

"Of course, I'm a teen idol! What? Do you think that the names LEIF Garrett and David CASSIDY were mere coincidences? They named themselves after LEIF CASSIDY because they wanted to be JUST LIKE ME!"

OK, kids, rev up that Delorean and get ready to go "Back In Time!" Whenever you have a conversation with the "New" Rocker, the sensation (as he likes to be called) known as Leif Cassidy, you'd better be prepared to get out your Footsie and skip backward a few generations. For instance, for those of you too young to know, LEIF Garrett and David CASSIDY were already fortified teen idols before baby LEIF CASSIDY could even dropkick—or let alone walk, for that matter!!! You see, it



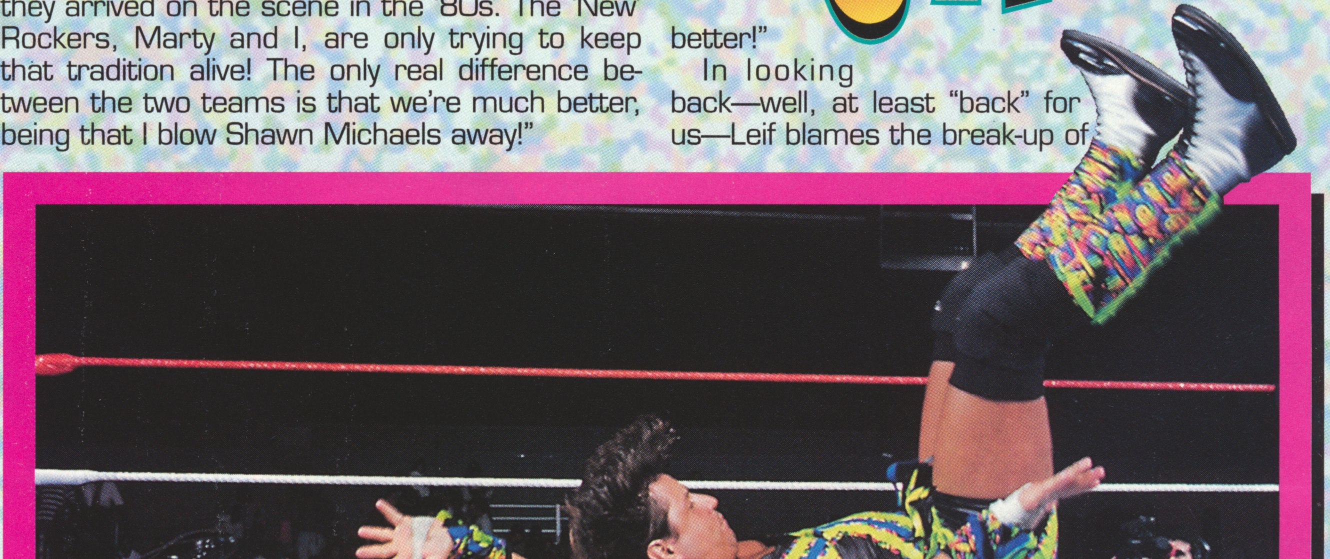
E WARP AGAIN!!!

appears that either nobody has told Leif that this is 1996 or he just plain doesn't care! I mean, that would probably explain his Monkees lunchbox and Partridge Family album collection. However, it doesn't end just there. Along with thinking that Marsha Brady is totally rad and that *American Bandstand* rules, Leif also sincerely believes that he is one-half of the greatest tag team of today—the 1980s—the "New" Rockers!

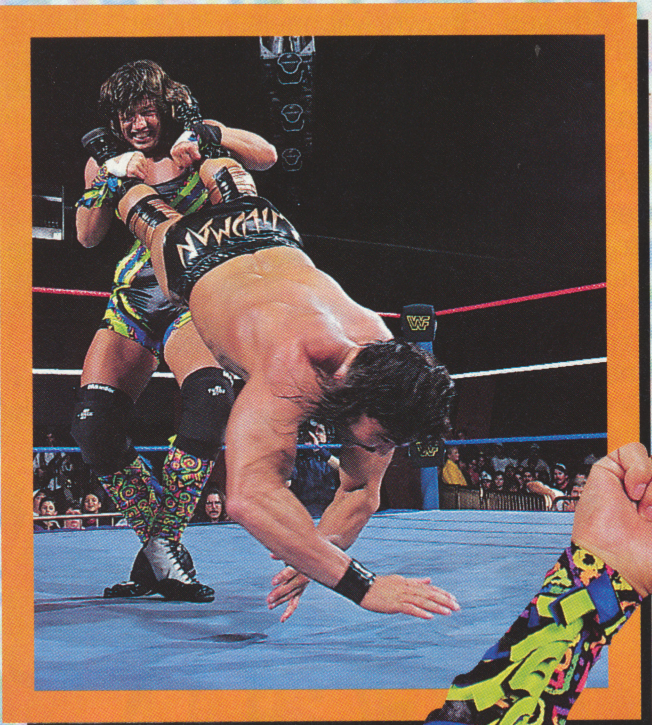
"What are you talking about?" questions Leif. "I'm well aware that this is 1996, but if something isn't wrong—WHY FIX IT?! The 'Original' Rockers were the greatest tag team when they arrived on the scene in the '80s. The 'New' Rockers, Marty and I, are only trying to keep that tradition alive! The only real difference between the two teams is that we're much better, being that I blow Shawn Michaels away!"

Ah, yes, Shawn Michaels. Perhaps this is where the time warp began. While trying to break into the wrestling business, those close to Leif say that he modeled his entire career after his idol—the Heartbreak Kid Shawn Michaels. He patterned his style of wrestling after him, cut interviews like him, spent hours practicing his "strut" and even went to the same hairdresser—with a framed picture of Shawn! "Is that not normal?" asks Leif. "Shawn was a great athlete, so I modeled myself after him. I mean, how many kids model themselves after Greg Brady? I was a huge fan of Shawn! Heck, he was an 'Original' Rocker! The only difference between the two of us is that I'm WAY better!"

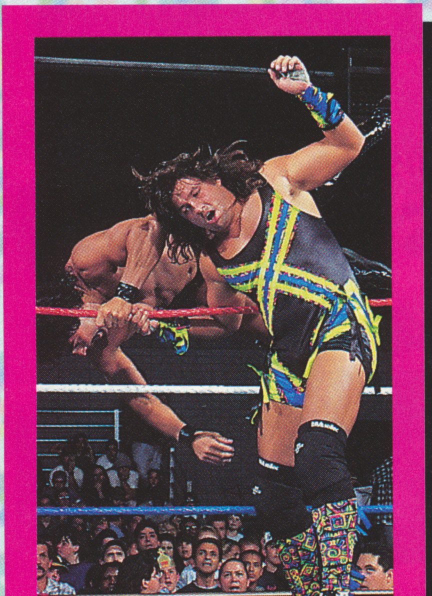
In looking back—well, at least "back" for us—Leif blames the break-up of



BY VINCE RUSSO



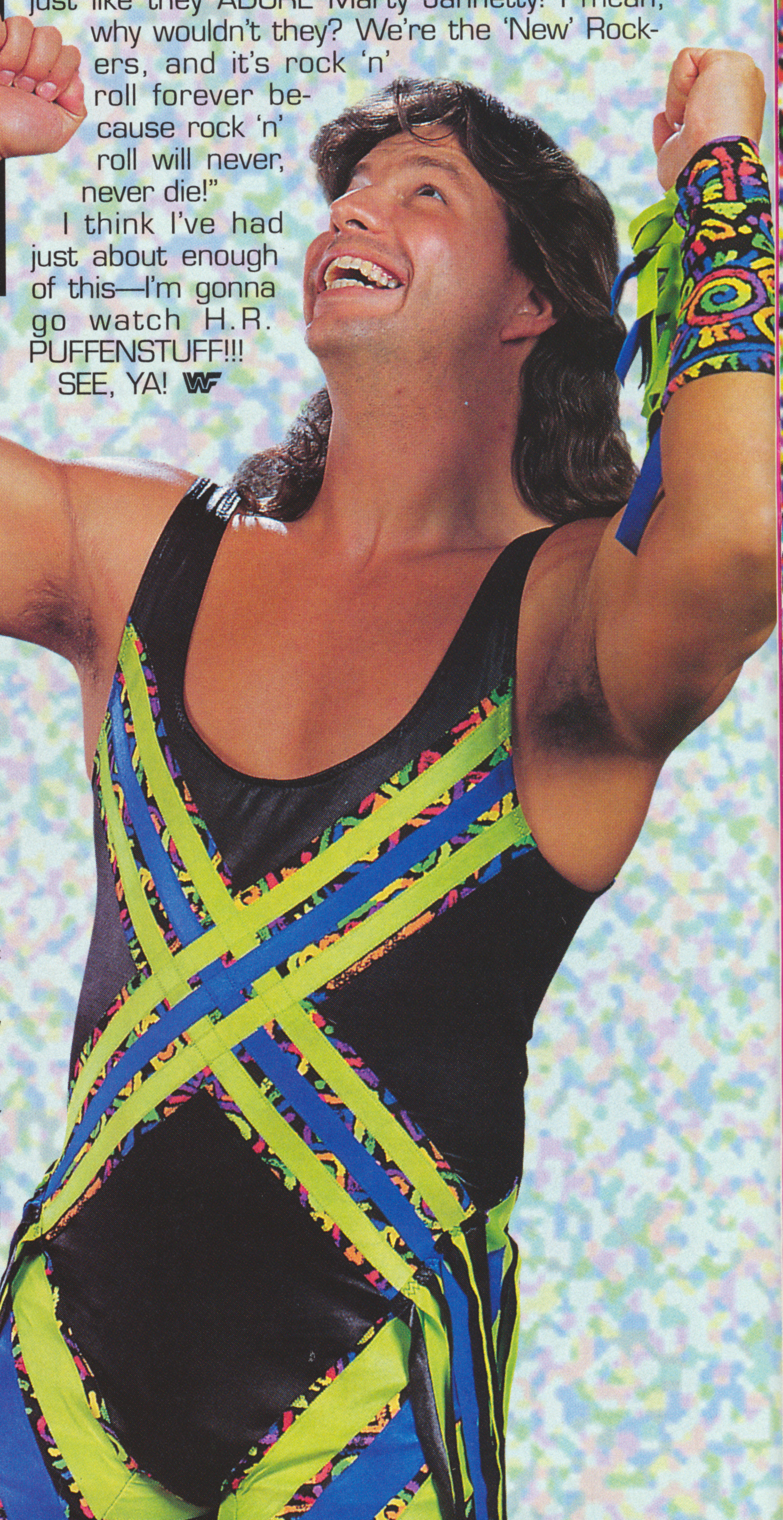
the "Original" Rockers on the selfishness of Shawn Michaels. "Shawn was totally out for himself," states Cassidy. "He was never a team player. Marty and I—we're a team! Just like the Carpenters! I'm always there for MJ, and he's always there for me! He doesn't have to carry me the way he carried Shawn. That's why we're going to go much further than the 'Original' Rockers ever did!"



However, in the opinion of many fans, Leif Cassidy still has a long way to go—a VERY LONG way to go—before people will associate his wrestling ability with that of Shawn Michaels. But even if people never see it, Leif Cassidy doesn't really care. "Nobody gave the Monkees respect because the Beatles were around before them," mentions Leif. "However, in due time, everybody accepted the fact that Michael Nesmith was a better guitarist than Paul McCartney and Mickey blew Ringo AWAY on the drums. It's just like this teen idol thing. People actually have the nerve to put my name in the same sentence with Bobby Sherman. When was the last time Bobby Sherman had a hit?! How many covers of *Tiger Beat* has he ever been on?! The girls ADORE Leif Cassidy, just like they ADORE Marty Jannetty! I mean, why wouldn't they? We're the 'New' Rockers, and it's rock 'n' roll forever because rock 'n' roll will never, never die!"

I think I've had just about enough of this—I'm gonna go watch H.R. PUFFENSTUFF!!!

SEE, YA!



PERSONALITY PROFILE

Best Advice Ever Received:
Rock 'n' roll will never die!

Biggest Thrill In Life:
Being a Rocker and getting to wrestle Shawn Michaels

If I Could Have Done It Differently:
I would never have given David Cassidy the secret to having a good hair day—every day!

Favorite Movie:
Fast Times at Ridgemont High

Favorite Actress:
Eve Plumb. That's Jan Brady for you younger teeny boppers!

Favorite Actor:
Barry Williams. That's Greg Brady for you younger teeny boppers!

Favorite Television Show:
The Brady Bunch, *The Partridge Family* and *Dance Fever*

Favorite Band:
The Monkees. Is there anyone else?

Hobbies:
Rock 'n' roll, playing air guitar, playing pogs and collecting 8-tracks

Secret Talent:
I'm a great dancer.

Favorite Sport (Besides Wrestling):
Roller derby

Favorite Athlete:
Marty Jannetty

Favorite Fast Food:
Hamburgers and french fries

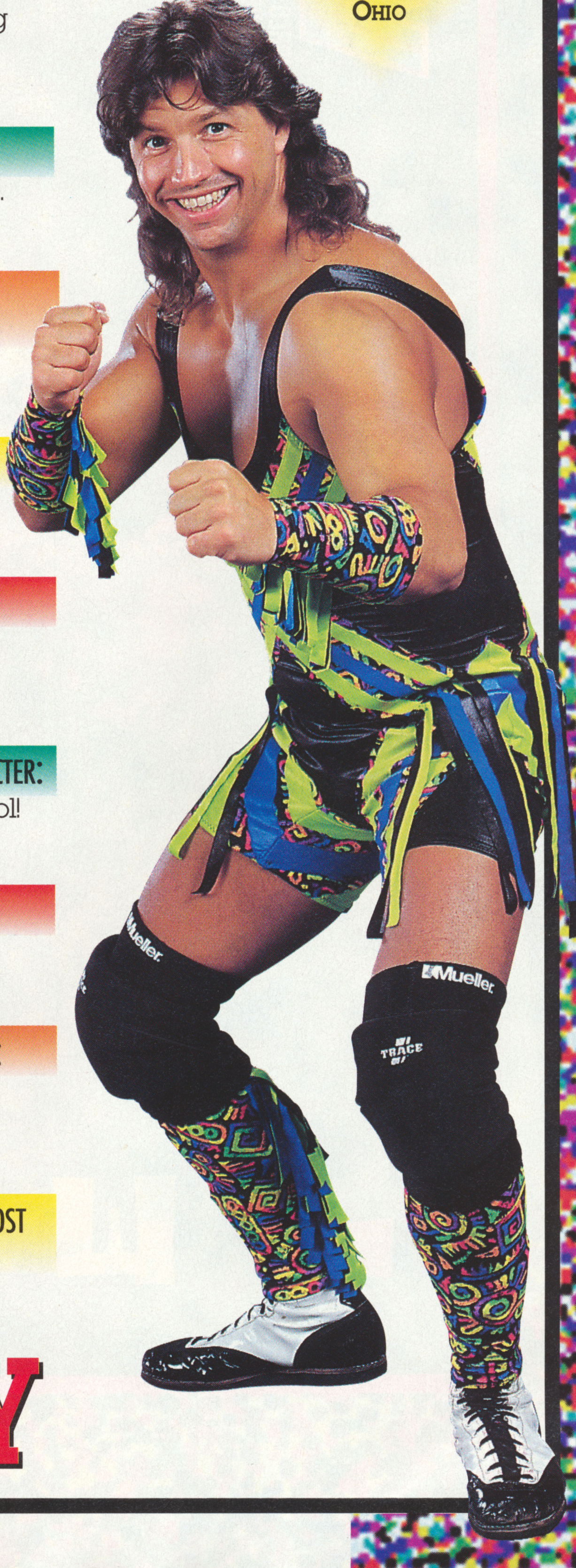
Favorite Cartoon Character:
The Tick. He's so cool!

Favorite Food:
Pizza

Favorite Video Game:
Space Invaders and Asteroids

Person You Would Most Like To Meet:
Barry Williams

Height: 6'1"
Weight: 231 lbs.
Home State:
Ohio



LEIF CASSIDY

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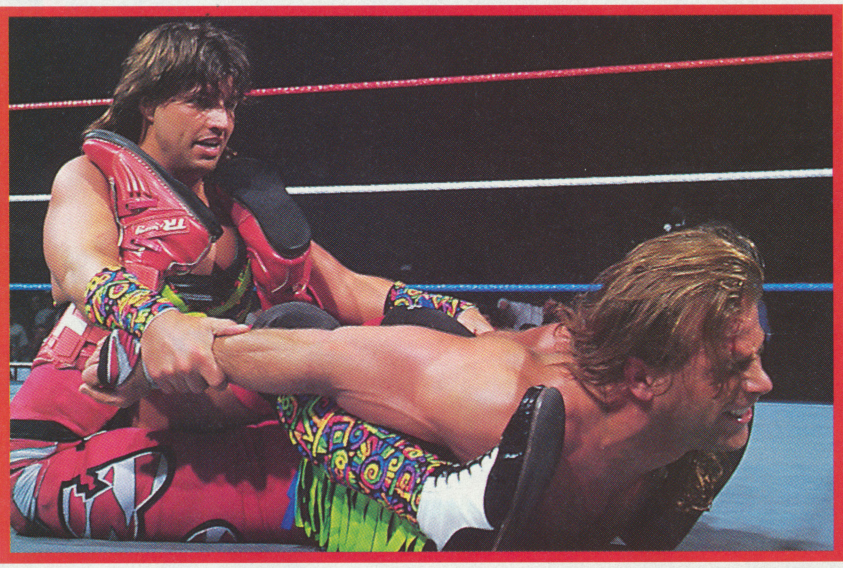
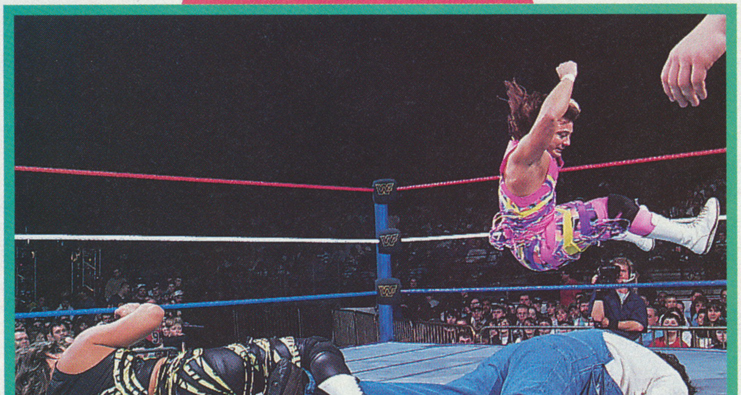
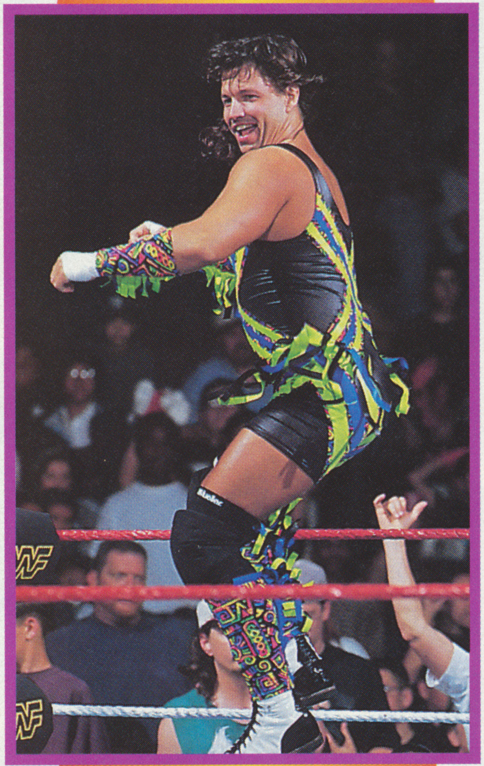
CAREER HIGHLIGHTS



Upon his arrival in the World Wrestling Federation, Leif Cassidy immediately made a name for himself when he gave his "boyhood idol" Shawn Michaels everything he could handle on Monday Night Raw. Unfortunately for the "New" Rocker, the "Original" wound up winning what turned out to be an extremely close contest.

In a classic World Wrestling Federation Tag Team Tournament match-up, Henry and Phineas Godwinn were able to "squeal" by Cassidy and Marty Jannetty to move into the semi-final round of the tournament. Vying to "pay back the little piggies," the "New" Rockers set out to cost the pride of Bitters their match against the British Bulldog and Owen Hart. Unfortunately, their plan backfired, costing the irate Camp Cornette the match instead.





Leif is proud when boasting about what he calls "the biggest Tiger Beat and 16 Magazine collection in the entire western hemisphere"!

IN your House RESULTS

Civic Auditorium
Omaha, Nebraska
April 28, 1996

FEDERATION TITLE MATCH—SPECIAL NO HOLDS BARRED MATCH: SHAWN MICHAELS (WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION CHAMPION) VS. DIESEL

Once, these two were best friends. They fought, then reconciled, then fought again. After Michaels won the World Wrestling Federation Championship at *WrestleMania XII*, Diesel—a one-time titlist himself—announced that he regarded his long friendship with Shawn as meaningless. All Big Daddy Cool cared about was making Shawn's life miserable.

Accompanied by his mentor Jose "Super Sock" Lothario, Shawn hit the ring punching, compensating for his smaller frame with uppercuts. But it took one shot from the 7-foot Diesel to send Michaels down to the canvas.

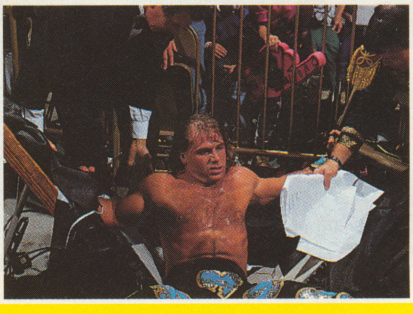
Keeping up the heat, Big Daddy Cool charged the Heartbreak Kid in the corner. Shawn thought quickly, vaulting over his former friend and dispatching him over the ropes with a staggering kick. Removing his chaps and belt, Michaels skidded across the canvas like a baseball player sliding into home and jolted Diesel with a kick as he lumbered toward the ring apron. Then the champion clambered to the top of the turnbuckles, propelled himself backward into the air and flattened the contender with a moonsault on the arena floor. Diesel wandered back into the ring, while the Heartbreak Kid shocked the crowd by crawling under the table of Spanish-language TV commentator Hugo Savinovich, pulling off his boot, mounting the turnbuckles again and diving onto Diesel with a heel to the forehead.

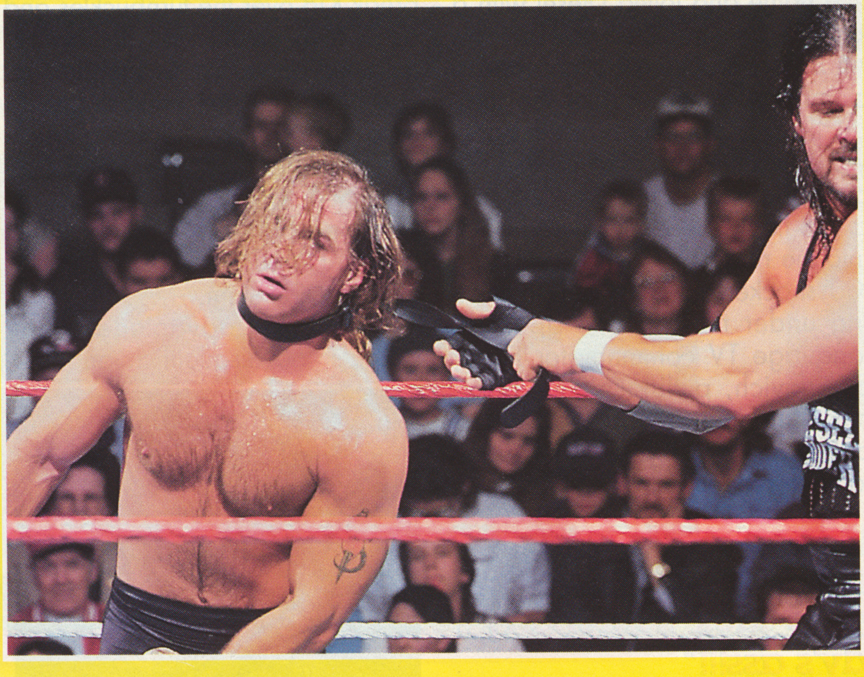
Shawn Michaels
"Tonight the Heartbreak Kid let it be known loud and clear—if I have to kick somebody's ass, then I'll kick somebody's ass!!!"

Big Daddy Cool Diesel
"Bottom line—the guy had to beat me with a fake leg in order to get the W."

Big Daddy Cool was more angry than hurt. He flung the Heartbreak Kid over the turnbuckles and as Shawn tottered on the apron, followed up with a sledgehammer. The blow sent the titlist dropping onto the guardrail. Tossing Michaels back into the ring, Diesel leveled the champ with a clothesline, slammed him—chin-first—across the top turnbuckle and delivered a jumping side slam.

Taking full advantage of the match's "no disqualification" rule,



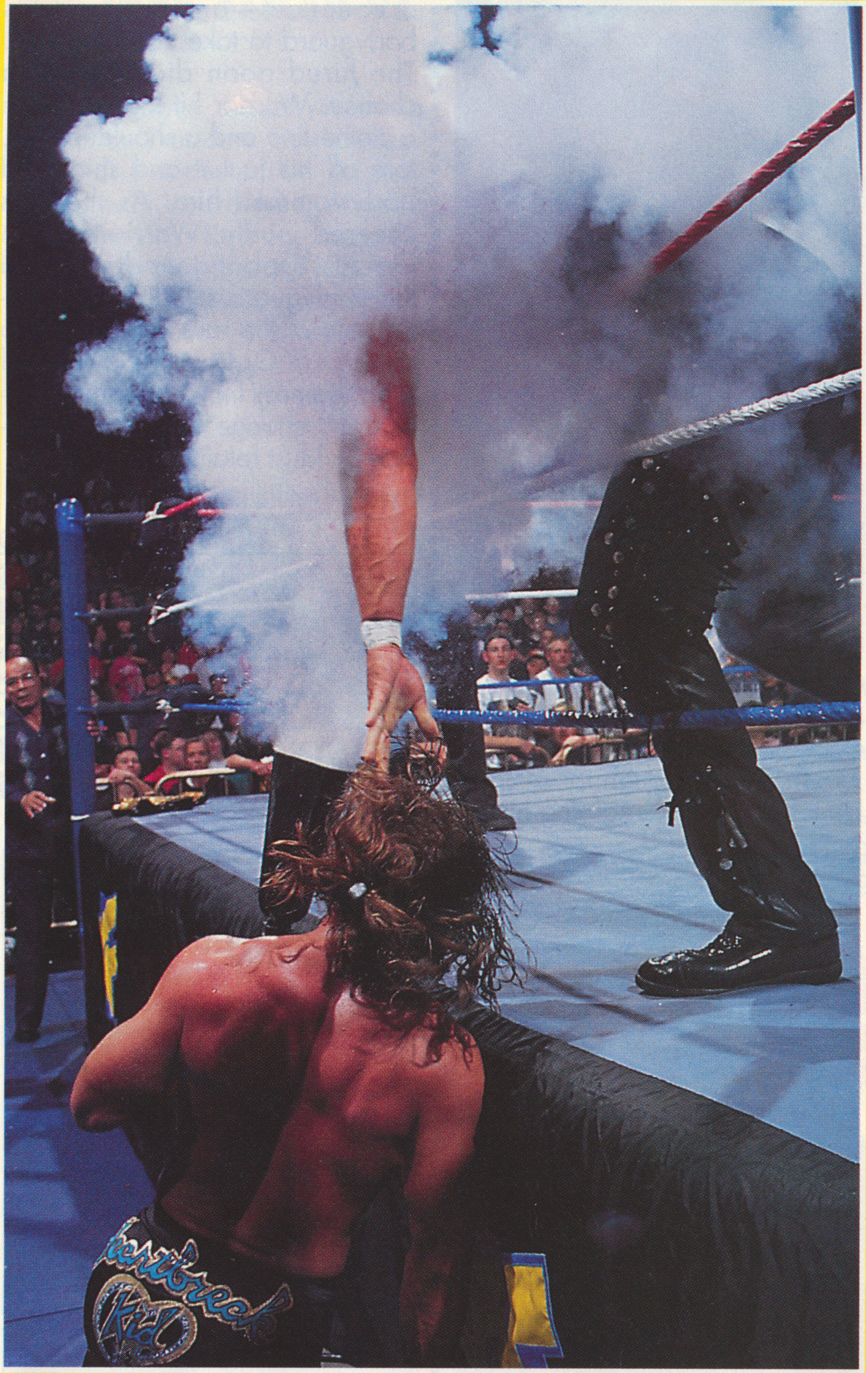


the challenger unwrapped the tape around his wrist and choked Earl Hebner with it. Then the ex-champion removed the official's belt and lashed it across Michaels' back. And that was just the start of things! Diesel wrapped the strap around Shawn's neck—and hung him from the ropes. After that, Big Daddy Cool tossed ring announcer Howard Finkel from his seat, picked up the chair and lowered it onto the champion.

As Michaels twitched helplessly, the referee untangled him. However, Diesel continued bashing his opponent with the chair. At one stage, he raised the object over his head and rushed at the Heartbreak Kid. Michaels slid to the mat as the weapon hit the top rope—rebounding off the cable and striking Diesel in the head.

Now, Michaels grabbed the chair. But Diesel felled him with a low blow before he could do any damage. Taking the match outside the ring, Diesel jackknifed Shawn onto the announcers' table, splitting it in two and forcing commentator Vince McMahon to leap up as monitors cascaded onto the titlist. Snatching the championship, Diesel exulted in the ring. When he marched to the ropes to pull Michaels back in, Shawn surprised his opponent by discharging a fire extinguisher in his face.

Blinded, Diesel was an easy target for Michaels' haymakers and flying forearm. Grabbing a folding chair—through which color commentator Jerry Lawler's headset was intertwined—Shawn pummeled his adversary. Diesel replied with fists across the spine and a boot to the face. He lifted Shawn for the jackknife, but Michaels swung his upper body toward the arena lights and fell on top of the challenger, with knuckles pounding on his skull. Not a fan was seated when Michaels perched himself on the top rope and hit Diesel with a flying elbow. Stomping in preparation for victory, Shawn lunged at Diesel with a



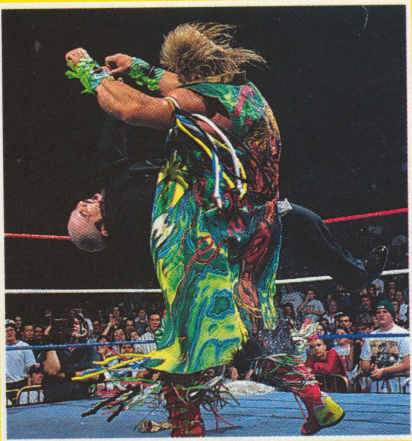
side kick. Diesel stepped out of the way and took down the champ with a clothesline. Both men were momentarily off their feet before Diesel got up and clotheslined Michaels over the top rope.

After dropping Shawn's throat across the guardrail, Diesel tossed the champ into the ring, then trudged into the crowd and snatched wrestling legend Mad Dog Vachon by the neck. Vachon—who retired after his leg was amputated in an automobile accident—yanked at Diesel's hair as Big Daddy Cool pushed Vachon onto the floor and pulled off his artificial limb. However, as Diesel attempted to smash the item onto his opponent, Michaels slugged him in the groin.

Big Daddy Cool went after Shawn again—and got Mad Dog's prosthesis in his face. Once again, Michaels stomped down hard on the mat. Throughout the arena, his "Kliq" stomped with him. Diesel tottered to his feet and drove his body toward the champion. Michaels was waiting, lacing into the challenger with the devastating side kick known throughout the World Wrestling Federation as "chin music." Diesel tumbled down to the mat, Michaels hooked the leg and the Heartbreak Kid won what was arguably the most brutal match of the year.

INTERCONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH—GOLDUST (INTERCONTINENTAL CHAMPION) VS. THE ULTIMATE WARRIOR

In his zeal to constantly keep opponents guessing, Goldust—nursing a knee injury from an earlier encounter with the Warrior—entered the ring not only with his "director," Marlena, but with a beefy bodyguard. The Warrior didn't seem the least bit intimidated. He chased Goldust and his director back to the dressing room, then draped the flamboyant athlete's robe over his director's chair in the center of the ring and took a few mocking puffs of Marlena's ever-present cigar.



Goldust
"For his strength I admire Samson, for his revolt I punish him, for the love of his people I envy him."
Samson and Delilah, 1949

Goldust returned to the ring and—at the Warrior's urging—replaced the former World Wrestling Federation Champion on the chair and extended a limp wrist to him. Warrior's response: burning Goldust's hand with the cigar, running the ropes and then clotheslining him off the chair.

That was enough for Goldust. He left the arena—earning himself a count-out—and ordered his bodyguard to take care of things. The hired goon didn't stand a chance. Warrior hit the man with a clothesline and a shoulderblock, tore off his jacket and shirt, and bodyslammed him. As the fans cheered loudly, Warrior put on Goldust's abandoned wig and the bodyguard's fedora, becoming one of the rare competitors to ever best Goldust in a war of mind games. However, since a title can't change hands via count-out, Goldust retained the title.

Ultimate Warrior
"There should be no disappointment. This wasn't about having a belt to put in my bag; this was about something on a much higher ground. Something that only true Warriors can understand!"

RAZOR RAMON VS. VADER

After mangling World Wrestling Federation President Gorilla Monsoon and, later, the mighty Yokozuna, Vader had a lot to prove against Ramon, the only four-time Intercontinental Champion in World Wrestling Federation history. Just seconds after the battle began, Vader effortlessly tossed Razor from the ring, then wore him down with body shots and headbutts.

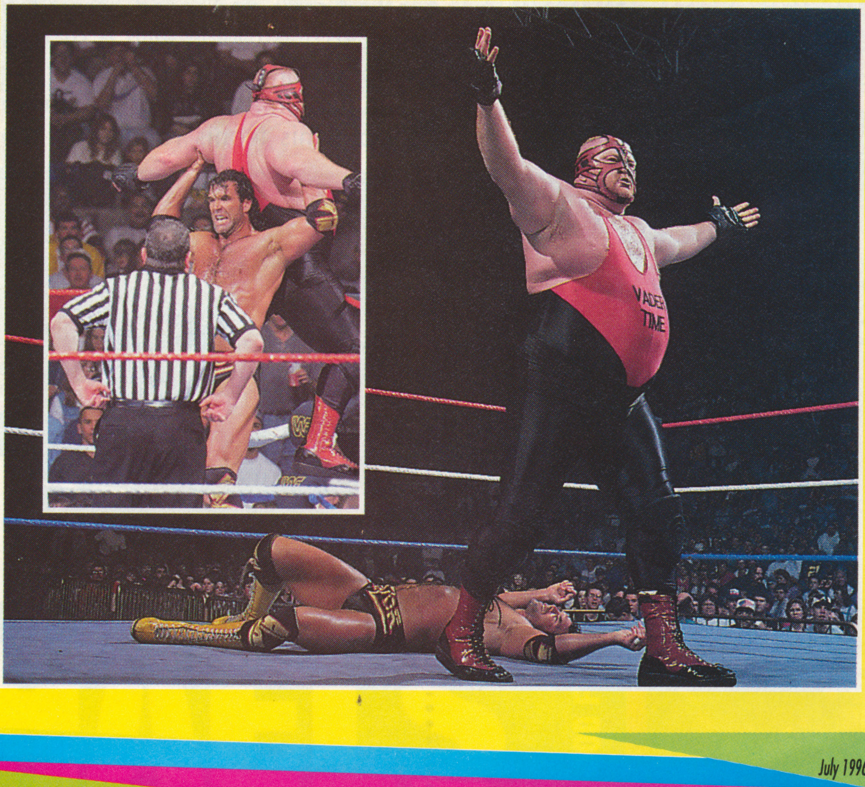
After a short-arm clothesline sent the rough Cuban onto the mat, Ramon fought back, hitting Vader with fists and chops. But when Razor started to position his foe for the Razor's Edge, Vader backflipped the Bad Guy over the ropes. Ramon returned, toppling Vader with punches, then sending the Mastodon onto the arena floor with a combination of clotheslines. A belly-to-back suplex put Vader down for a near-fall. Vader countered with a Vader Bomb—Razor kicked out at two—and a back-to-back suplex. Ramon hung in, stunning Vader with a suplex of his own.

When Vader went up the ropes for another Vader Bomb, Ramon got behind him and tried a Razor's Edge. But Razor couldn't hold Vader's weight and let go, clutching the ribs. Vader again tried his patented finisher, and Razor again followed him and broke up the maneuver. On this occasion, Ramon slipped under Vader's body, hoisted him onto the shoulders and drove him backward onto the mat.

Vader was feeling desperate and had to end the match quickly. When Ramon tried yet another Razor's Edge, the beast from the Colorado Rockies seized the moment, executing a high back-bodydrop and quickly dropping his girth onto the Bad Guy's ribs to get the three-count.

Jim Cornette
"Maybe Razor Ramon will now realize that he doesn't even belong in the World Wrestling Federation!"

Razor Ramon
"Chico, I lost, he won. No excuses."



JAKE "THE SNAKE" ROBERTS & AHMED JOHNSON VS. THE BRITISH BULLDOG & OWEN HART

Bulldog and Owen's manager, Jim Cornette, and their lawyer, Clarence Mason, came to the ring with a court injunction barring Roberts' snake, but Jake tore up the document and unleashed his reptile on his foes before complying with the order.

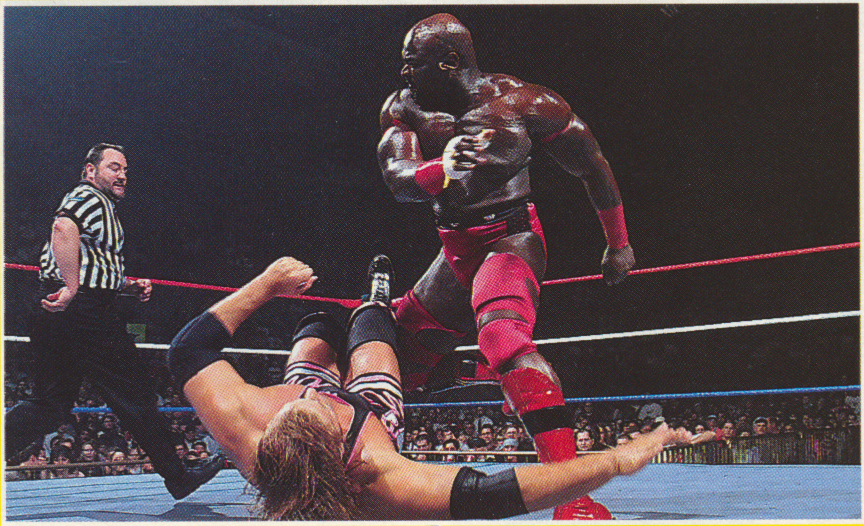
Jake "The Snake" Roberts
"Simple, I made a mistake. I went in there not covering all the bases, but next time I will be waiting at home plate."

However, Jake's last-minute tag team partner Ahmed Johnson made Cornette's crew sweat almost as much, gorilla-pressing Owen and slamming him into the mat. Somehow Hart survived and zapped Roberts with a dropkick from the second rope. Once Jake fell to the canvas, he was instantly double-teamed by his opponents.

After a grueling beating, Roberts managed to tag Ahmed, who exploded on his rivals, victimizing the Bulldog with a reverse atomic drop and chopping down Hart with a clothesline. Ahmed and Roberts then locked arms and raced across the ring, razing Owen with a second vicious clothesline.

In the turmoil, though, Cornette slipped his tennis racquet to the Bulldog, who took out the back of Roberts' knee with the weapon, and then he clamped on a half Boston crab until the Snake howled in submission.

Ahmed Johnson
"I want the Bulldog, and I want him at all costs! That means I'll go through anybody in the World Wrestling Federation to get to him! He's mine!"



Jim Cornette
"We scaled one, and we skinned the other. Now, it's the time for Camp Cornette to move on to bigger and better things!"

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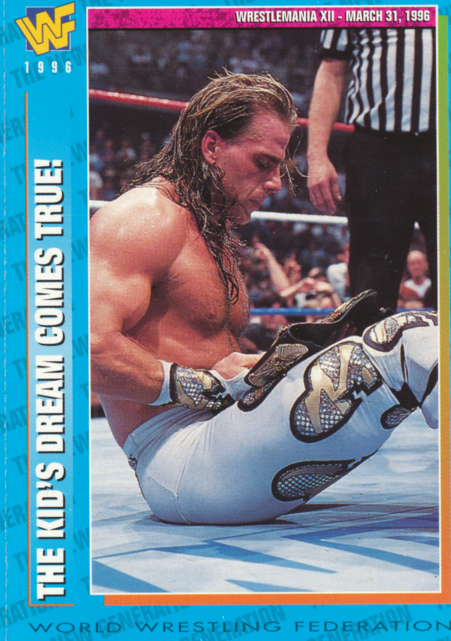
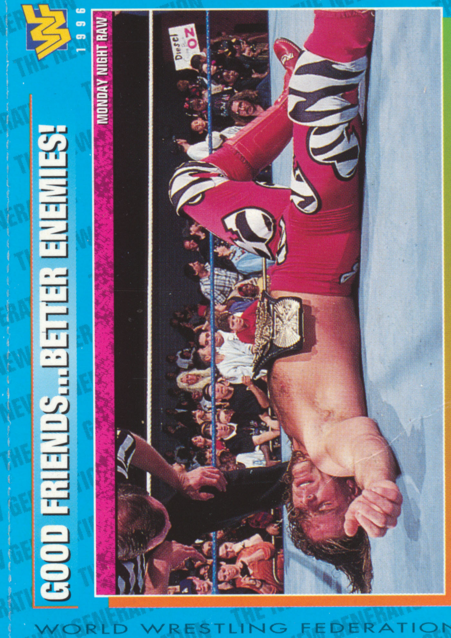
SLAMMY AWARDS
AND THE WINNER IS...
WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION


1996
WRESTLEMANIA XII - MARCH 31, 1996
THE KID'S DREAM COMES TRUE!
WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION


1996
MONDAY NIGHT RAW
GOOD FRIENDS...BETTER ENEMIES!
WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION

SHAWN MICHAELS

1996

AND THE WINNER IS...

SLAMMY AWARDS 49

At the 1996 Slammy Awards, Shawn Michaels stole the show by walking away with four bodyslammin' trophies. With the voting being done solely by the fans of the World Wrestling Federation, the Heartbreak Kid captured four categories including: Best Threads, Best Slammin' Jammin' Entrance, Master of Mat Mechanics and Leader of the New Generation.

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THE KID'S DREAM COMES TRUE!

WRESTLEMANIA XII—MARCH 31, 1996 50

The dreams of a 12-year-old boy from San Antonio, Texas, turned into the destiny of a man, Shawn Michaels, when the Heartbreak Kid defeated Bret Hart in the first-ever World Wrestling Federation Iron Man Match at WrestleMania XII. With the victory, Shawn became the fourth man in Federation history to capture the triple crown of professional wrestling (Federation Title, Intercontinental Title and Tag Team Title).

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GOOD FRIENDS...BETTER ENEMIES!

51 MONDAY NIGHT RAW

Two weeks after becoming the Federation Champion, Michaels was attacked by former bodyguard and friend Big Daddy Cool Diesel on Monday Night Raw. After a victory over Jerry "The King" Lawler, Diesel, who was calling the action ringside, caught Shawn with his Federation Belt, knocking the Heartbreak Kid out cold. This callous act of treachery led to the war to settle the score between the good friends, now better enemies, at April's In Your House.

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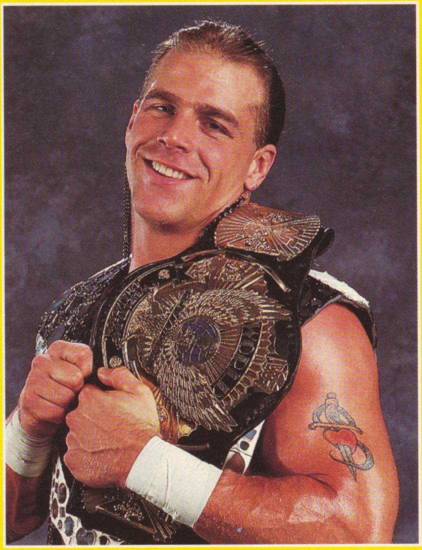
SHAWN MICHAELS



1996

World Wrestling Federation Champion Shawn Michaels

HEIGHT:

6' 1"

WEIGHT:

227 pounds

FROM:

San Antonio, Texas

TITLES HELD:

World Wrestling Federation Title, Intercontinental Title (3), Tag Team Title (2)

MOTTO:

"Kickin' it with the Kliq"

FINISHING MOVE:

Thrust Kick or "A Little Chin Music"

NICKNAME:

The Heartbreak Kid

PPV DEBUT:

November 24, 1988, at the Survivor Series. With Rocker partner Marty Jannetty, Shawn teamed with the Powers of Pain, the Hart Foundation, the British Bulldogs and the Young Stallions to take on Demolition, the Fabulous Rougeau Brothers, the Bolsheviks, the Brain Busters and the Conquistadors.

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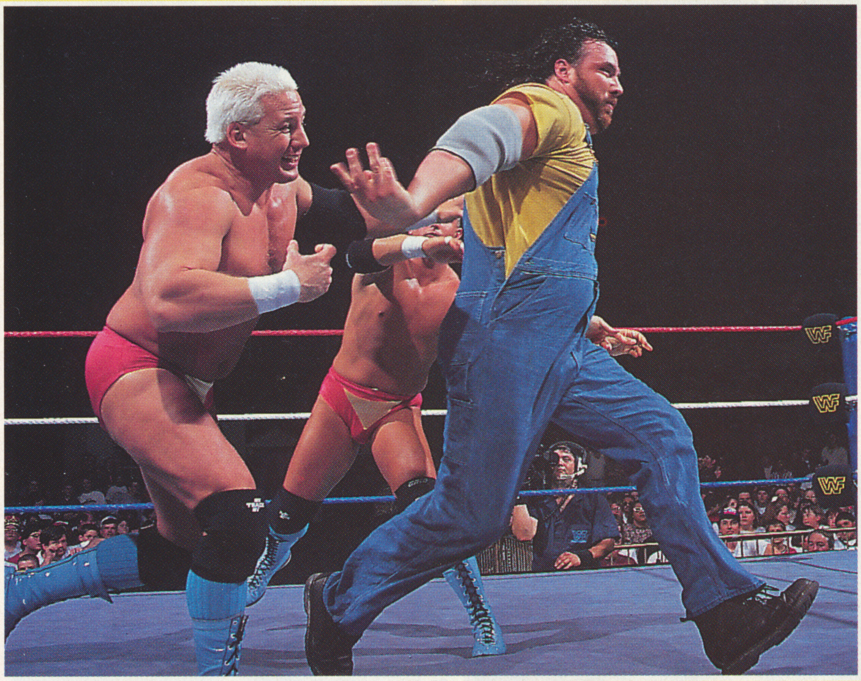
TAG TEAM TITLE MATCH—THE BODY DONNAS (WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS) VS. THE GODWINNS



Recognizing that they were facing larger challengers, the Body Donnas, Skip and Zip, started the battle by double-teaming Henry Godwinn—aka H.O.G. But H.O.G. and his brother Phineas I. Godwinn—or P.I.G.—leveled the field by ganging up on Zip with quick tags. Then P.I.G. tucked Skip's legs under the arms and flipped him backward across the ring.

Phineas shifted his attention on Zip, running the ropes. Unfortunately for the Kentucky hog farmer, Skip pulled down the top strand as P.I.G. attempted to bounce off, and the unfortunate Godwinn brother fell backward to the arena floor. Pooling their energies, the Body Donnas then slingshot-suplexed their victim inside the ring.

Henry tagged in and cleaned house on the Body Donnas, backflipping and gorilla-pressing Skip.

Hillbilly Jim

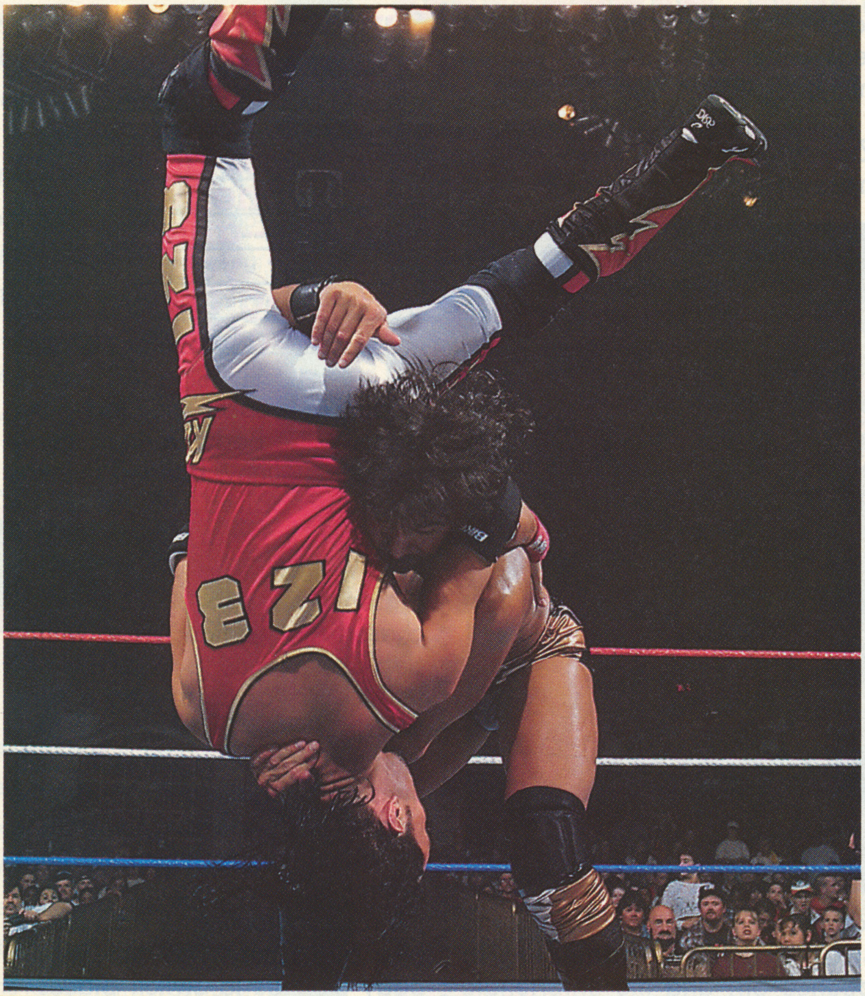
"Once again that doggone Sunny stuck her nose in there, only this time she came at us in a different way. Every time you think you have one thing figured out with her, she does somethin' else. The fact of the matter is that somethin' more severe is gonna have to happen to keep her out of the way!"

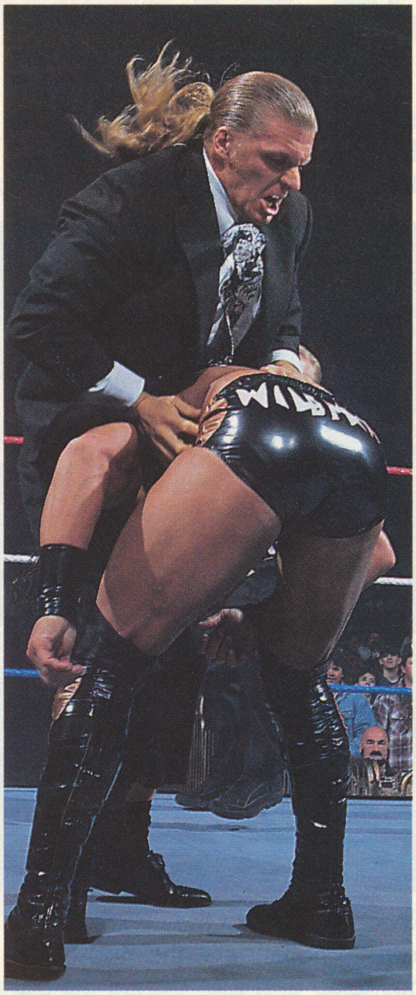
Sunny

"Phineas just happens to be crazy about me! Is that my fault? I mean, look at me! Can you blame him? Bottom line--another victory for your World Wrestling Federation Tag Team Champions!"

Hoping to weaken the Godwinns' arsenal, the Body Donnas' curvy manager, Sunny, handed Phineas an autographed picture as he stood on the ring apron, watching. While P.I.G. pondered the present, his manager, Hillbilly Jim, chased the woman away with a slop bucket.

As this was transpiring outside the ring, H.O.G. shattered Skip with the Slop Drop within the confines of the squared circle. But the referee was too busy watching the distraction on the arena floor. Soon Henry was also standing by the ropes, shouting at both the arbiter and Sunny. This allowed the Body Donnas to switch places—and Zip to play possum, rolling up H.O.G. for the pin when he tried resuming the match.





FREE FOR ALL: WILDMAN MARC MERO VS. 1-2-3 KID

Before the *In Your House* pay-per-view spectacular began, Wildman Marc Mero—with the gorgeous Sable in his corner—took on the 1-2-3 Kid in a free televised contest.

Mero's archrival, the snobbish Hunter Hearst-Helmsley, first appeared at ringside to stalk the stunningly beautiful Sable. Following that—after the Wildman knocked down the Kid with a stunning jab—Helmsley interfered in the match, costing the Kid a disqualification.

Still, Helmsley managed to have the last laugh, debilitating the Wildman with his Pedigree finisher as he concentrated on both adversaries. WF

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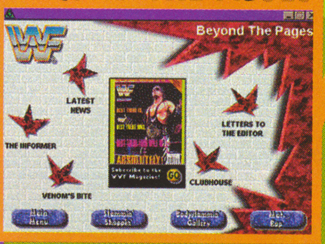
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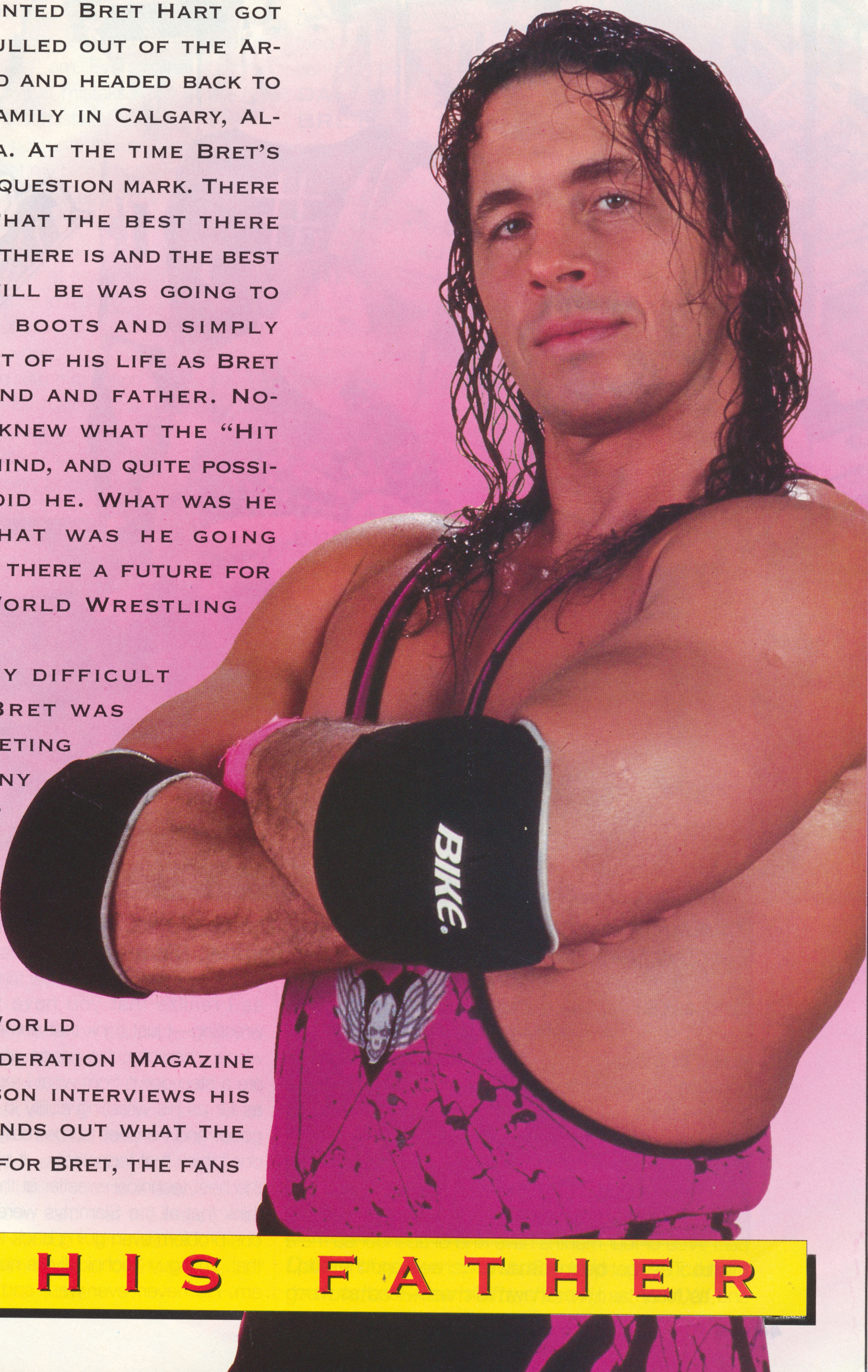
A SON INTERVI

Following WrestleMania XII, a disappointed Bret Hart got in his car, pulled out of the Arrowhead Pond and headed back to his waiting family in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. At the time Bret's future was a question mark. There were hints that the best there was, the best there is and the best there ever will be was going to hang up the boots and simply spend the rest of his life as Bret Hart—husband and father. Nobody really knew what the "Hit Man" had in mind, and quite possibly neither did he. What was he thinking, what was he going through, was there a future for him in the World Wrestling Federation?

Facing many difficult questions, Bret was not up to meeting with me or any of my staff reporters, that is except for one... his son Dallas. In this World Wrestling Federation Magazine exclusive, a son interviews his father and finds out what the future holds for Bret, the fans and his family.



EWS HIS FATHER

The Hart Clan—Above left to right standing: Beans, Dallas, Jade and wife Julie. Seated: Bret "Hit Man" Hart and the youngest clan member, Blade.

DALLAS: My first question is: How do you feel, having lost to Shawn Michaels at *WrestleMania XII*?

BRET: It bothers me to have lost to Shawn Michaels because I think as good as he is—and I think he's very good—I don't believe that he's better than I am. And as much as I don't believe in excuses and hate having them all the time when I lose, there's this big, giant excuse there saying... I don't know. I feel just a little discouraged that so many people, in a sense, over the past three or four months have kind of abandoned me a little bit. They got behind Shawn Michaels and the "Kliq," and as much as I like Shawn Michaels—and as much as I realize that you have to have new guys in wrestling—I just think that sometimes his message, his whole character, his image and his whole personality are a step down from what I represent. I even think that as far as his wrestling ability in the ring, he's very, very good, and he does some really, really flashy stuff, but I don't think that technically... It bothered me that he won the best technical wrestler at the Slammys; it made me think that all the Slammys were a joke. I'd have a serious problem even going back to another Slammys after that. This guy "technically" is not as good a wrestler as I am. He never, ever was, and he never, ever will be.

High-flying wrestling, he's got me beat, but a technical wrestler? This is a guy who, if anything, watches wrestling matches and steals all kinds of moves that I do, which is fine, but he certainly "technically" is never going to be as sound as I am. Even in that match, I waited for him to make that mistake, and at the 59-minute mark, he made that mistake. You didn't see me making any mistakes, not until the match went into overtime. Then I think I got my blood boiling, and I made a mistake—a misjudgment. The error I made was out of frustration. Again, I was trying to wrap up the match, I was trying to put him away, and in that overtime period I didn't because there was that lapse in time where he was allowed the opportunity to recover. A two- or three-minute span is plenty of time to recover after such a physical contest. That's where I lost. But again, I've become very disenchanted with that notion people have in their heads that Shawn Michaels is the better wrestler and that Shawn Michaels is the "champion." He's good, but he never really beat me.

DALLAS: Even though Shawn Michaels won, do you still have respect for him?

BRET: I have respect for him, but I have more respect for myself. I look at him as being below me. The fact that he's got that title... I can't say that it bothers me that much because I'm in a position now where I can finally come home and I don't have to worry about anything. It's nice to be able to come home. I've done my job in the Federation. I've fulfilled... I gave a promise and a commitment to my fans that I would give 100 percent and that I wouldn't let them down, and I really think that I didn't. As much as I know that I lost the title and that I lost it right in the middle of the ring, 1-2-3—there wasn't any foot on the ropes or anything like that—I think my fans can say that they are still proud of me. I can only hope that they can forgive me and respect my position right now. How did you feel?

DALLAS: Me? I felt bad that you lost the match, but I kinda felt good because I knew that it meant that you could come home and that we could do all the stuff that we always wished we could do.

BRET: Does it bother you when people remind you that your dad lost to Shawn Michaels?

DALLAS: I feel a bit weird, but not all the time.

BRET: Well, let me ask you this: Do you get a lot of people who think I wasn't treated fairly? Who think I have every right to be upset about what happened?

DALLAS: Well, yeah! I think you have every right to be upset. Gorilla Monsoon said that the match was supposed to be a 60-minute Iron Man match. He didn't say anything about sudden death or overtime. Then all of a sudden there was sudden death.

BRET: Here's a good question for you: How did you feel when Shawn Michaels jumped out of the ring after he won at *WrestleMania* and he high-fived you and tried to high-five Blade? Did you want to shake his hand, or did you just want to be a good sport?

DALLAS: I just wanted to be a good sport.

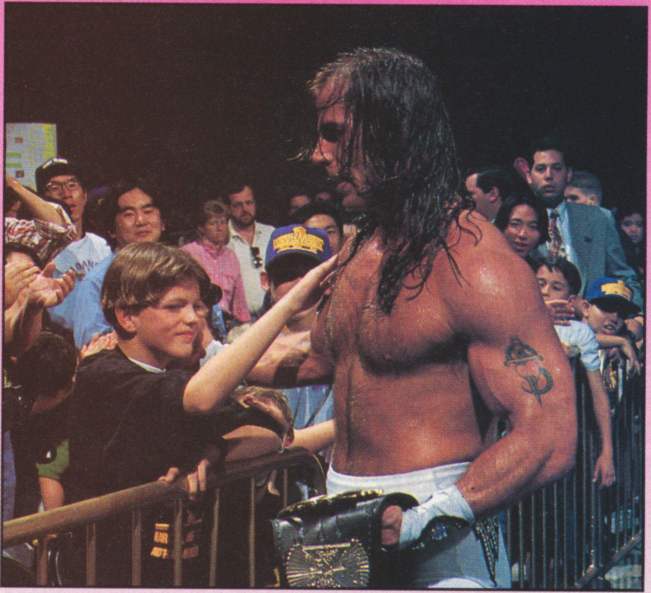
BRET: Yeah, because you know Shawn. This is the same guy who used to squirt you with the water guns filled with milk. He and Diesel used to do that to you when they were friends.

DALLAS: Yeah, I've known Shawn for a long time. But, Dad, why didn't you shake his hand?

BRET: I was just very frustrated. Fate wasn't with me that day. I didn't think the better man won. I saw Shawn Michaels the next day on *Raw*, praising me and saying all these great things about me. Well, that meant nothing to me. I'm not a poor loser, but I just didn't think justice prevailed. For some reason I just didn't want to endorse Shawn Michaels. When you shake hands at the end of a match, it's usually a way of saying the better man won... at *WrestleMania* that never happened.

DALLAS: Would you want a rematch?

BRET: Yeah, I'd want a rematch, but at the same time it's great to be home. I've been gone steadily for 12 years without any kind of a long break. I don't know if people can understand that... 12 straight years of being on the road. It's funny how many of my friends are "on the road." I have friends in Boston, Los Angeles, San Diego, Hamburg, Germany. In a sense... they've become my family. It's like I come home and I have a few minutes with you, a few minutes with Blade, a few minutes with Jade and Beans, a few minutes with your mom... I have just a few minutes to share with you



Dallas displays sportsmanship as he congratulates Shawn after his win at WMXII.

guys. I'm in a situation where I have allowed strangers to become family and family to become strangers. It's been accepted, and everyone's made sacrifices, but there comes a point in time—and I don't know if it's now or not—but there does come a point in time where it would be nice to be home to watch you play that hockey game, to be there to see Jade sing in the choir, to watch Blade grow up... just to be home for birthdays. Just this past week I found myself flying over to Germany for a tour on Easter Sunday. To miss Easter... again. I've missed Easter dinner for 12 years. To be flying out Christmas morning is a tough, tough way to make an existence. I don't know how you feel about it, but you know there is going to be a point in time where I am going to be home all the time. How do uou think you would feel about that?

DALLAS: I'd feel good. I'd feel like a normal family.

BRET: If I were to retire tomorrow morning, would you miss the *WrestleManias*, being a part of all that? Would you miss writing your columns for the magazine? You know, having people treat you like a hero? We're celebrated in a sense. Would you miss all that stuff?

DALLAS: Yeah. One of the really fun things for me was when I would get to travel with you. Like, we'd always go to Portland or drive way over to Boston; we went to a whole bunch of places.

BRET: It was kind of fun hanging around and doing all that stuff—me, you and Blade. Remember when we almost wound up camping out at the Hilton on that last night after the baseball game? Didn't we order Chinese food? Or was it pizza?

DALLAS: It was pizza, but we couldn't get it right away because they were so backed up.

BRET: Yeah, but we did eventually get one though. But, say it's *SummerSlam*, and I'm not in it anymore. Or *WrestleMania* and I have no part in it. Would you miss that? Especially when you've got guys going out there, whether it be Shawn Michaels or not, saying, "I'm the champion, I'm the best!" Would you think, geez, my dad was the best?

DALLAS: Yeah. Like if we ever get pay-per-views without you on them, it just isn't going to be the same. There won't be wrestlers on it as good as you.

BRET: Well, I'm sure we're going to miss it, but there will be other great wrestlers. But it's like what's baseball without Joe DiMaggio? When Wayne Gretzky quits hockey, hockey will go on, but you can't say that people won't miss him. People will miss us, but we'll also miss them. It works both ways. I guess it's going to be a transition for both you and me. You're going to sacrifice things like *WrestleMania* and all the fun and hoopla that goes with a big event... you know, Madison Square Garden... but at the same time it'll be nice to come home and watch the Calgary Hitmen play that big game on a Thursday night against whomever. It'll be nice to take in a movie rather than wait to see it on video cassette because Dad wasn't home. To be home Christmas day and help you put all your toys together... your bicycle. I just know that for so many years we've missed the chance to get to do some of that stuff. It's gonna be an adjustment, I can tell, just putting you kids to bed every night. When I'm home just two or three nights at a time, it's easy because it's like... all right, Dad's home... things will be real good. Now it's like, Dad's home for months and months and months, when do you think he's gonna lighten up?

DALLAS: Get a job.

BRET: (Laughing) Let me ask you this: How do you think Blade felt when I lost to Shawn Michaels? I can remember the second time when the Anvil and I lost the tag team belts to the Nasty Boys, you and Blade took it really bad. You were both crying really hard. Now so many years have gone by, and you've grown mature and you handle those kinds of situations better, but what about Blade? I don't know if anybody noticed or not, but when Shawn's song came on, Blade wasn't singing *Sexy Boy*, he was singing...

DALLAS: *Bag Boy*.

BRET: (Laughing) Well, I don't know if it's good or not to mention that, but I just wanted to point out that Blade was not endorsing Shawn Michaels. But how do you think Blade handled it?

DALLAS: The expression on his face wasn't too swell. He had a real down face about your loss to Shawn Michaels.

BRET: But he didn't cry, did he?

DALLAS: He didn't cry, but it sure looked as if he had real watery eyes.

BRET: How about Grampy?

DALLAS: Actually, I think that Grampy was pretty strong about it.

BRET: Yeah, I think Grampy's been down that road before. I do know that my dad is strongly opposed to my giving up wrestling right now. He feels that it would be too short, that it's not the right time. Again, I'm not real sure what will happen. I may do more acting. I'm may even follow up on some dreams that I have that don't have anything to do with wrestling. But again, wrestling has been a huge part of my life. I think that without losing touch with wrestling, I need to focus on some other personal things in my life. I need to see if there is more to life than wrestling or if that's all I've got. Again, we'll see what happens. But for right now, just being Dad for a while would be kind of nice.

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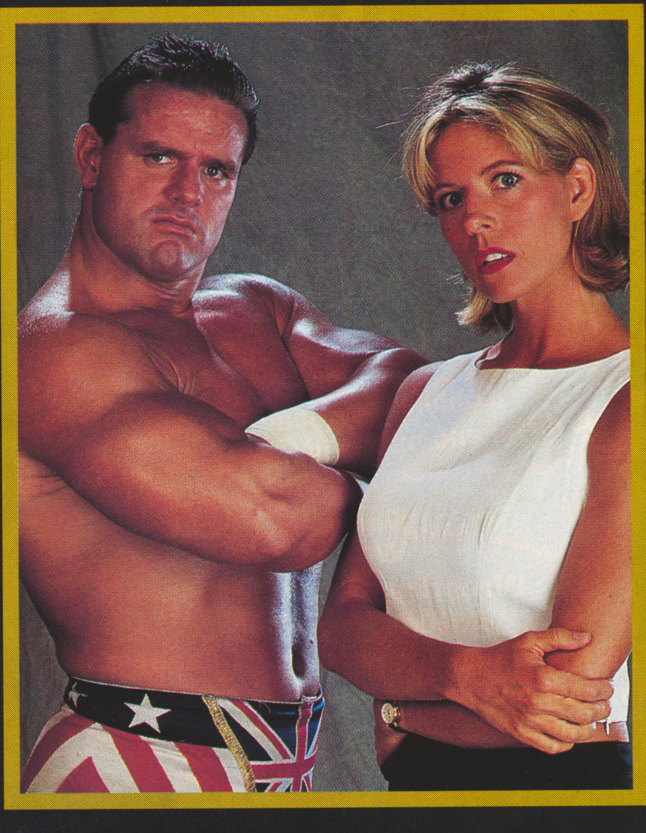
KING OF THE RING™

By Keith Elliot Greenberg

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION CHAMPION

SHAWN MICHAELS VS. THE BRITISH BULLDOG

The bad feelings started when the British Bulldog alleged that Shawn Michaels was not only a pitiful World Wrestling Federation Champion but a home wrecker. According to the Bulldog, Shawn coveted the wives of others—particularly Diana Smith, the brawny Englishman's spouse.



Michaels was insulted by the suggestion. At the May *In Your House* pay-per-view, he put up his title against his accuser, vowing to shut the Britisher's scandalous mouth in the process. *In Your House* was supposed to settle everything between these bitter enemies. Instead, the loathing lingers.

Both men are in agreement on one issue: the *King of the Ring* main event will be different from prior encounters. Michaels and Shawn are angrier than they've ever been at one another. And neither one of them is willing to leave the ring until his rival is vanquished and humiliated.

Since snaring the World Wrestling Federation Championship at *WrestleMania XII*, Michaels has been a game titlist, taking on every challenge in his path. However, his confrontations with the British Bulldog have been most troublesome. The versatile champion has pledged to improvise on an already stunning arsenal at *King of the Ring* and overwhelm the beefy contender.

The Bulldog has already enjoyed a stellar career, holding both the World Wrestling Federation Intercontinental and Tag Team belts on different occasions. But, he claims, two distinctions have evaded his grasp. He's never won the World Wrestling Federation Belt, nor has he punished Michaels sufficiently for "dishonoring" Diana. Now Shawn is defying his foe to clean the slate on both counts.

THE UNDERTAKER VS. MANKIND

Not long ago, the Undertaker was the only World Wrestling Federation gladiator whose very presence sent chills through the dressing room. As the Grim Reaper's eerie entrance music chimed over the public address system, opponents were known to visibly recoil, debating whether to continue with the match or sneak through the crowd and catch the next plane that was heading for home.

Now another competitor evokes the same reaction in his adversaries. Just as the Undertaker personifies the macabre and unknown, Mankind symbolizes the horrific and deranged, representing the disturbing underside of all of us. While he conquers opponents in the ring, he distresses every spectator on hand.

Rather than polishing off an opponent with an elbowdrop or a leglock, Mankind thrusts his fingers down a man's throat, gagging him until he can no longer continue.

Recently, the Undertaker was attacked by this maniacal newcomer and forced to endure Mankind's torturous finisher. Now the World Wrestling Federation's Man from the Dark Side is coming for revenge. The

Undertaker intends to try to exterminate the menace with his patented Tombstone piledriver, then "entomb" him for all eternity.

In previous times, the Undertaker appeared to be endowed with the powers of immortality. But now, experts are wondering, will Mankind be the one to make his rival "rest in peace"?

King of the Ring TOURNAMENT

There are few greater honors a wrestler can earn. Along with the World Wrestling Federation and Intercontinental crowns, every grappler dreams of becoming King of the Ring.

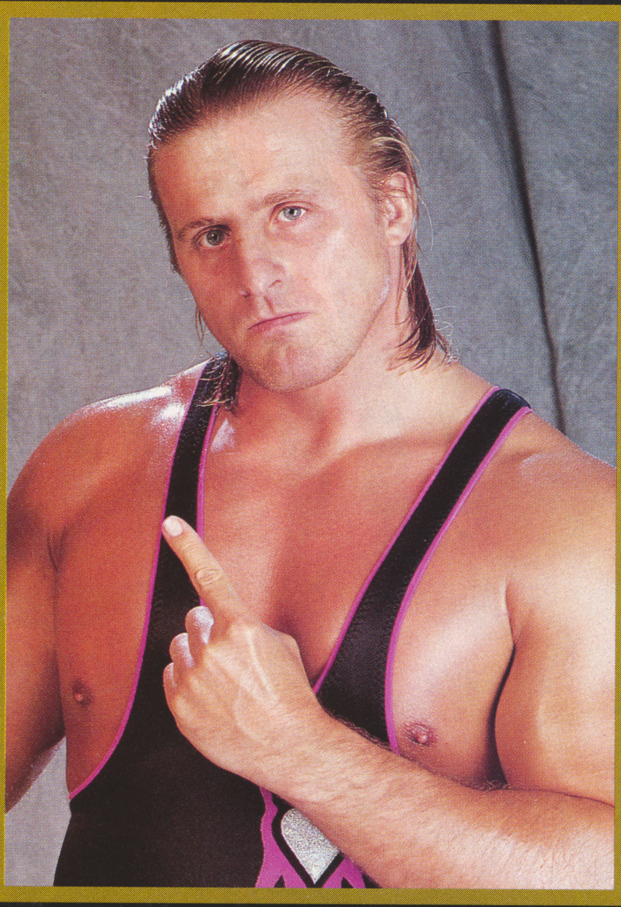
The designation is achieved only after surviving a long, grueling tournament of opening round matches—televised on *Monday Night Raw* and *WWF Superstars*—then lasting through the semifinals and finals on the *King of the Ring* pay-per-view.

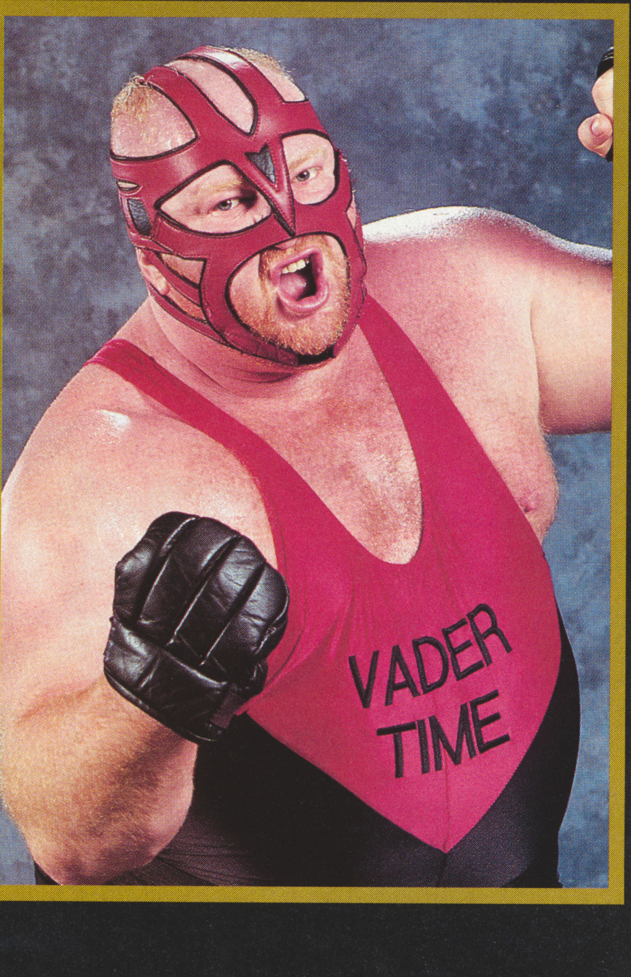
At press time, 16 of the world's most dangerous athletes have signed up for the tournament. Of these, both the Ultimate Warrior and Yokozuna have held the World Wrestling Federation Championship, Goldust is the current Intercontinental kingpin and Skip is co-holder of the Federation's tag team honors. These four men will be out there gunning to win the 1996 *King of the Ring*.

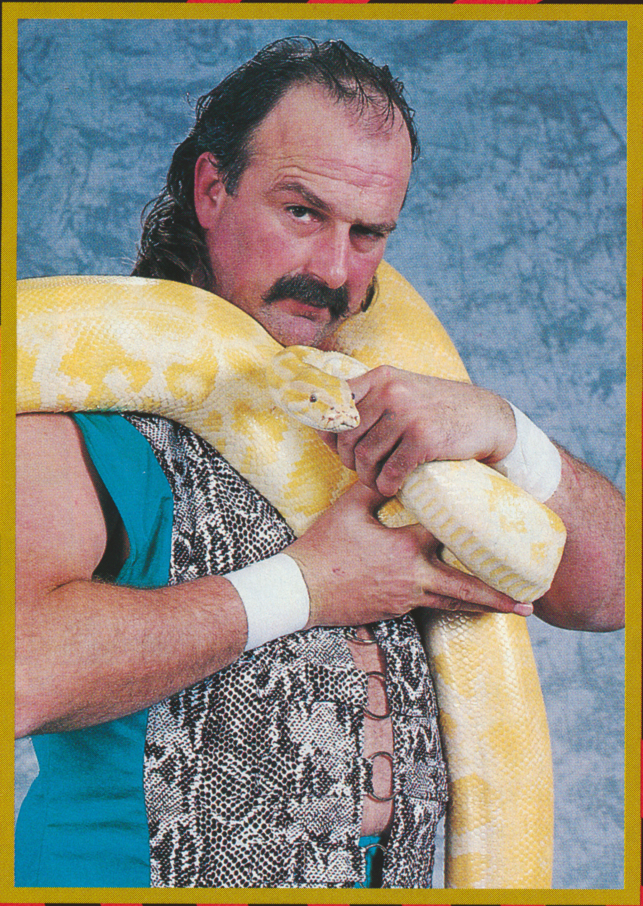
They'll have their hands full. Even though participants may change, scheduled entries in the tournament as of press time include: Marty Jannetty, Stone Cold Steve Austin, Vader, Justin "Hawk" Bradshaw and Wildman Marc Mero.

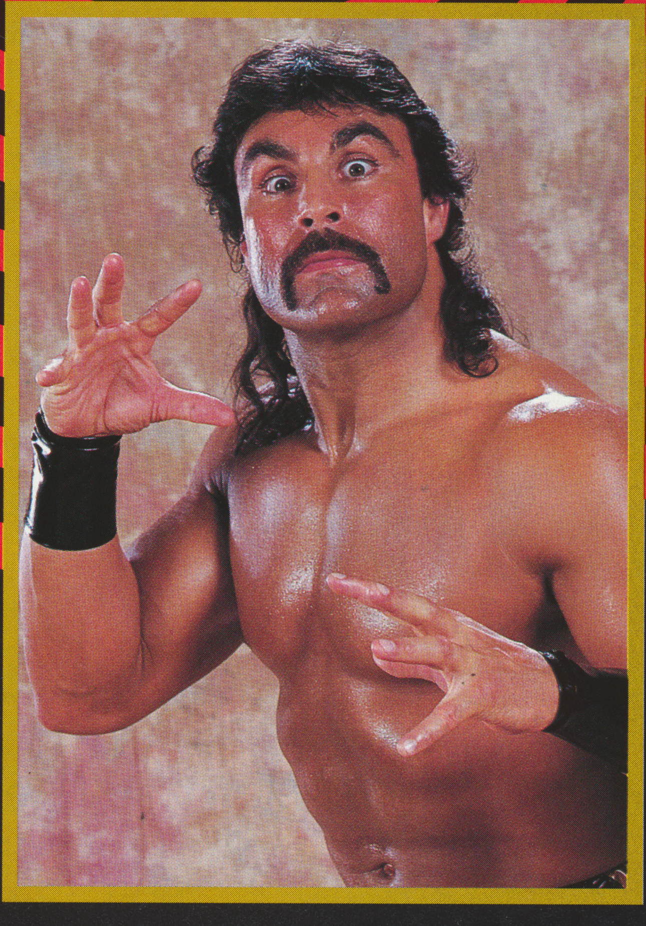
Rounding out the tournament will be 1994 King of the Ring winner and now "Slammy-Award-Winning" Owen Hart, the legendary Jake "The Snake" Roberts, Hunter Hearst-Helmsley, Fatu, Billy Gunn, Savio Vega and Leif Cassidy.

For a more detailed analysis of this annual classic—including expert odds-on favorites—make sure you read the July/August issue of *Raw Magazine*.









"OSCAR. THERE IS ONLY ONE. EVERY MAN'S DREAM. EVERY WOMAN'S FANTASY. MY DESTINY."

HOW WILL OSCAR EVER FORGET THE NAME...

By Vince Russo

The Red Carpet. For 68 years it has been rolled out for that one night. That one very special "golden" night. At one time or another, they have all strolled across it. Bogie, Marilyn, The Duke, Gable, Garbo, DeNiro, Pacino—the roll call reads even longer than the credits of the *Ten Commandments*. Flashbulbs pop in a blitzkrieg as paparazzi battle for their very lives in order to mark the tiniest piece of velvet as "their territory." Interviewers scurrying around, deciding who's hot and who's not, while Barbara Wawa does her thing once again, "miraculously" seeming to never age.

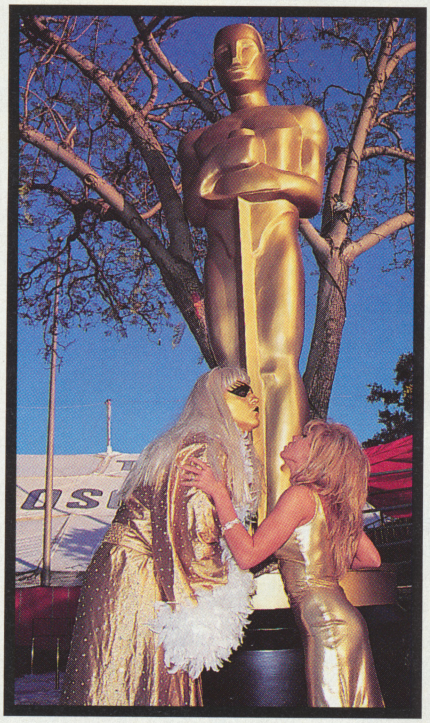
Look, there's Jack! Hooray, for Hollywood!

"Ah, yes, 'Hooray for Hollywood.' I sit back, and I take them all in. Pathetic dreamers. All wanting to hold him, all wanting to caress... Oscar. Yes, they want to feel him in their greedy,

GOLDUST

INTERCONTINENTAL
HEAVYWEIGHT WRESTLING

"THERE IS NONE SO GLAMOROUS, SO ELEGANT, SO SENSUAL... AS OSCAR. HE IS MY GOD, AND MY TOTAL BEING IS HIS."



sweaty little paws. And they'll do whatever they have to do in order to make that vision a reality. Backstabbing is a national pastime here. Look at that Sharon Stone. You think it's not her 'Basic Instinct' to crush those who stand in her way? That ice pick wasn't just used on celluloid. She uses it as a dagger in her selfish and conniving climb to the top. The top. Where they all want to be. Where they'll never get, as long as Goldust still holds the ticket. The ticket to Hollywood. The ticket to life."

With comments like that, it was to no one's surprise that Goldust didn't come out to crawl on the velvety red shrine Monday night, March 25. To him, the entire Academy Awards ceremony is a disgrace. How such "normal" people are considered stars by not only themselves but the entire movie industry is beyond even his wildest imagination. He finds it insulting, degrading and outright embarrassing. "Even Cher won an Oscar one year; just what does that tell you?" questioned the disturbed Goldust. "Once, these Academy Awards meant something. Brando, Dean, Cagney—there was dignity, there was style, there was CLASS. Today? Nicholas Cage? Need I say more?"

Despite his sassy shunning of the Academy Awards, Goldust did, however, make his pilgrimage to Tinseltown the day before to pay honor and tribute to the one symbol that he feels still represents Hollywood today—Oscar himself. Like a sacred statue, Goldust holds Oscar in his highest esteem. He sees the 14-karat "God of Gold" as representing the true—AND ONLY—total "meaning of life."

"This is the most powerful, the most significant piece of gold in all the world," commented Goldust as he bowed at Oscar's golden base. "It represents power. It represents more than any championship belt that any one man can wear. It is holy. Its mere presence is a religious experience to one.... Goldust. One day soon, I will hold Oscar close in my presence. Together he and I will become one. Paint the town 'Golden,' if you will. Until that time comes... just save the balcony for us.

"They will never forget the name... Goldust."

THE INFORMER

Talk about blowing the lid off the sucker! You want the scoop of the year? Well, here goes—just last week I, the INFORMER, confirmed that one of the greatest tag teams in the HISTORY of the World Wrestling Federation may be close to settling their differences and making a MAJOR comeback! This particular dynamic duo were Tag Team Champions on more occasions than one, AND if the rumor is indeed true, I, the INFORMER, can almost guarantee that this team will DEFINITELY hold the cherished gold again! As I get more details on the information, I will pass them along to you... You want another SHOCKER?! Here goes—rumor has it that there may be a certain individual from the ULTIMATE WARRIOR'S past who hasn't forgotten how miserable the man from PARTS UNKNOWN made his life many years ago. My sources tell me, the INFORMER, that as you're reading this column, this individual may indeed be plotting the master plan of the century in order to attempt to even the score with the WARRIOR—ONCE AND FOR ALL!!!... How trustworthy is PAUL BEARER?... Talk about HOT, HOT, HOT, how about this one that's brewing on the back burner—sources tell me, the INFORMER, that behind the scenes SUNNY is insanely jealous over none other than the gorgeous SABLE! That's right, even though SUNNY is a babe in her own right, my spies have informed me, the INFORMER, that in the presence of SABLE, SUNNY may be feeling a tad bit insecure. So, being that everybody knows WHAT SUNNY WANTS, SUNNY GETS, what does this mean? Could it possibly mean a new tamer for WILDMAN MARC MERO? Would SUNNY possibly attempt to CALL THE WILD and trap MERO in her cage? STAY TUNED!!!... Make no bones about it, the HEARTBREAK KID SHAWN MICHAELS is a marked man!!! Aside from a handful of loyal friends, everybody is gunning for MICHAELS and that cherished gold that he wears ever so proudly around his waist. However, the name that surprised me the most as being said to have SHAWN at the top of his hit list was Pearl River's own AHMED JOHNSON. Remember, it was AHMED who befriended SHAWN following that travesty in Syracuse, and it was AHMED who stood by the HEARTBREAK KID at the 1995 SURVIVOR SERIES. Unfortunately for SHAWN, the bottom line is: When it comes to that Federation Belt—THERE ARE NO FRIENDS! SHAWN vs. AHMED—I, the INFORMER, would buy a ticket for that one!!!... I would not be the least bit surprised to see the World Wrestling Federation go out and sign a FREE AGENT in the very near future!!!!... Could this be true? Could ZEBEKIAH have the ear of the SMOKING GUNNS? Could BILLY and BART be looking to join his stable in order to attempt to turn their goody-goody image around? Well, one of my sources told me, the INFORMER, that just the other night he saw ZEB, BILLY, BART and JUSTIN "HAWK" BRADSHAW sitting at the same table at some rib joint in Omaha, Nebraska! Hmmm... Yes, BOB BACKLUND IS STILL CAMPAIGNING!!!... Until next time... (For a more in-depth report from the INFORMER and yet even MORE juicy gossip, be sure to read INFORMER—CONFIDENTIAL in this month's issue of *WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION RAW*!!!)

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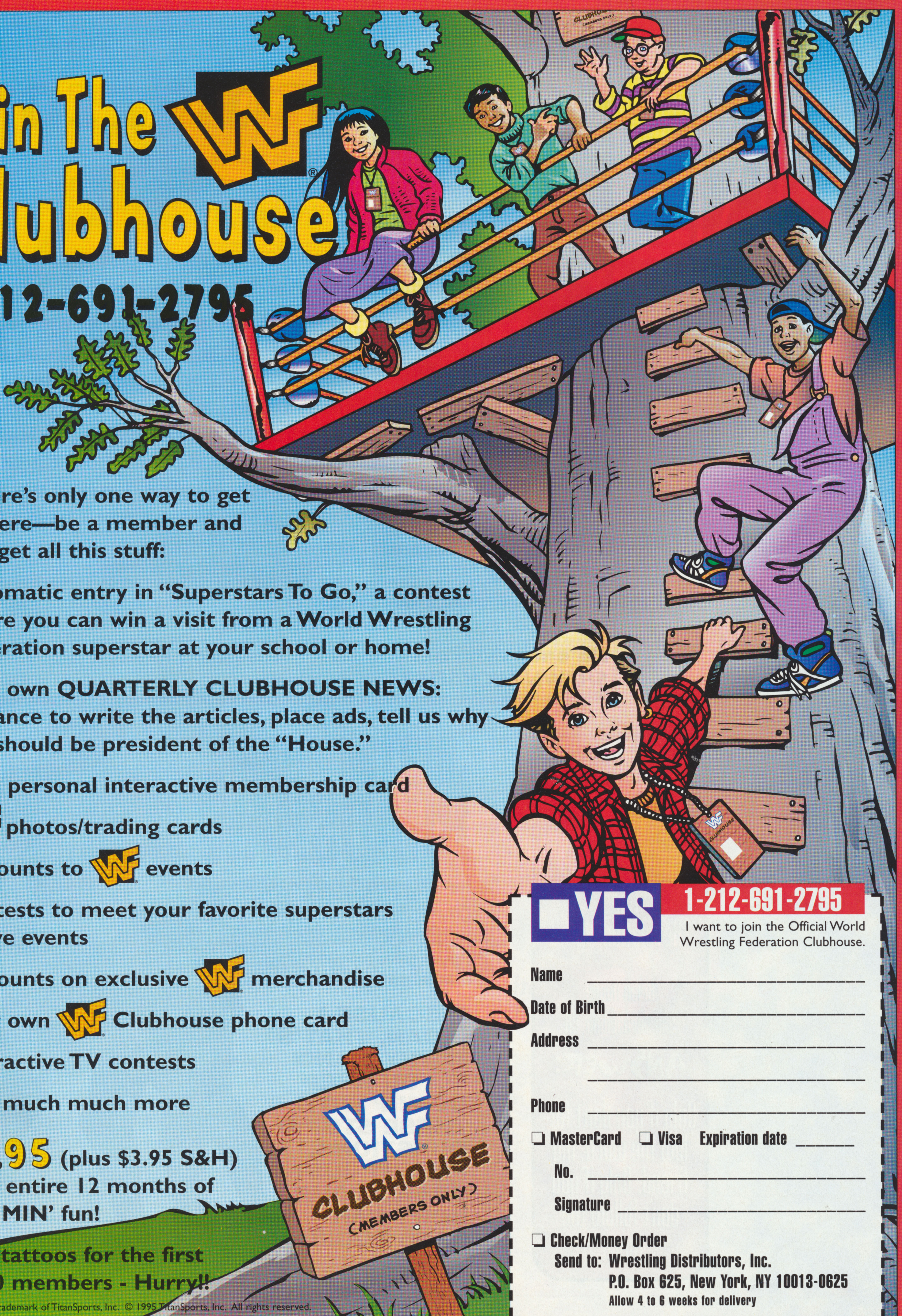

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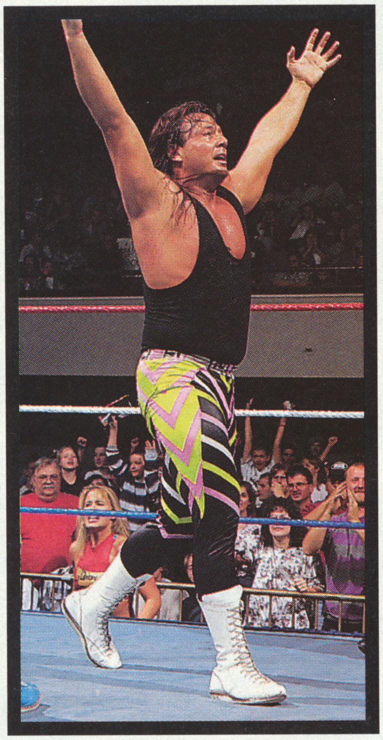


QUESTION

Marty Jannetty,
Instead of Leif Cassidy, why don't you get a REAL partner?

Susan Morgan
San Antonio, TX

ANSWER

San Antonio, huh? You can't be talkin' about Shawn Michaels, can you? How many Tag Team Titles did Shawn Michaels win for Marty Jannetty? ZERO! GOOSE EGG! NONE ! For years I carried the "Original" Rockers. At least now I have a partner who "pulls" his weight, not "drags" it!

MR. PERFECT: Who do you find "perfect" in the New Generation? ***Bob Denver, Miami, FL***

No one. Who did you think I was going to say? ***SHAWN MICHAELS?*** Give me a break.

JAKE "THE SNAKE" ROBERTS

Does "Revelation" bite?

Brian Hogue
San Bernardino, CA

ANSWER:

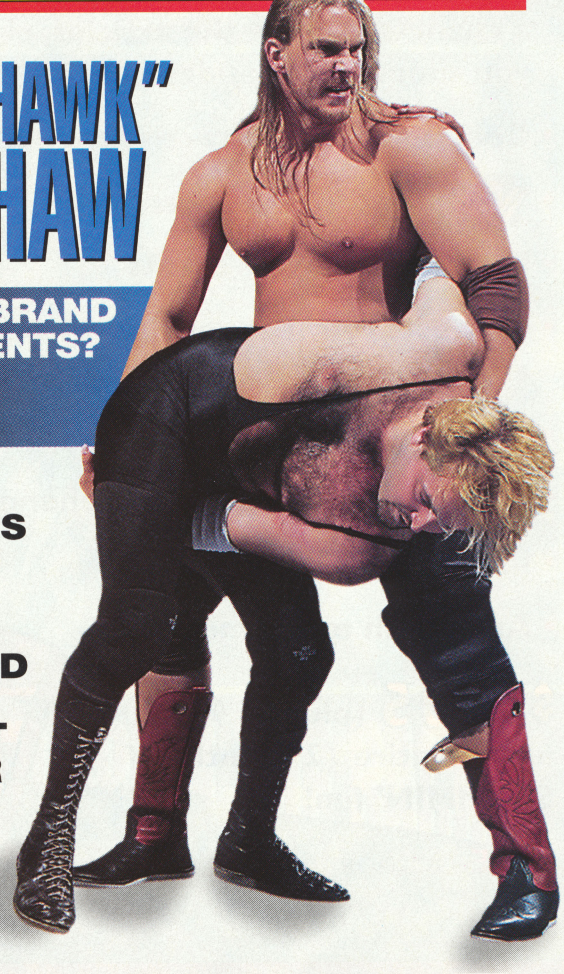
Only if you don't follow the word, my friend. Only if you don't follow the word.

JUSTIN "HAWK" BRADSHAW

WHY DO YOU BRAND YOUR OPPONENTS?

NANCY ADAMS
LAKE GROVE, NY

BECAUSE I CAN, THAT'S WHY!!! AND IF YOU KEEP COMIN' WITH THESE STUPID QUESTIONS, I MIGHT JUST BRAND YOUR BONY CARCASS TOO!!!



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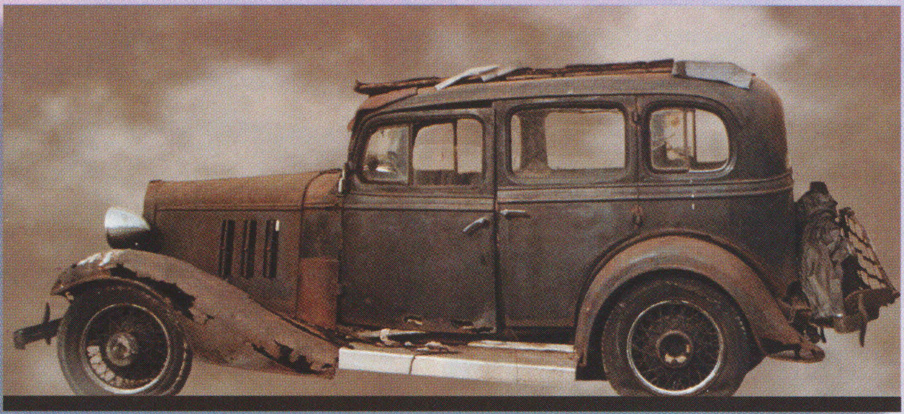

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Kingfish Roasting On An Open Fire!

PHOTOS BY TOM BUCHANAN

Once upon a time there was
an unruly King... who claimed
to be ruler of the almighty ring.

From his mouth he
would roar, misfortunate kids,
"hit the door!"

But never would he mooch,
when it came to his loyal,
trustworthy pooch!

While feasting one day,
the King began to choke.
When he finally came to,
he found what was no joke!

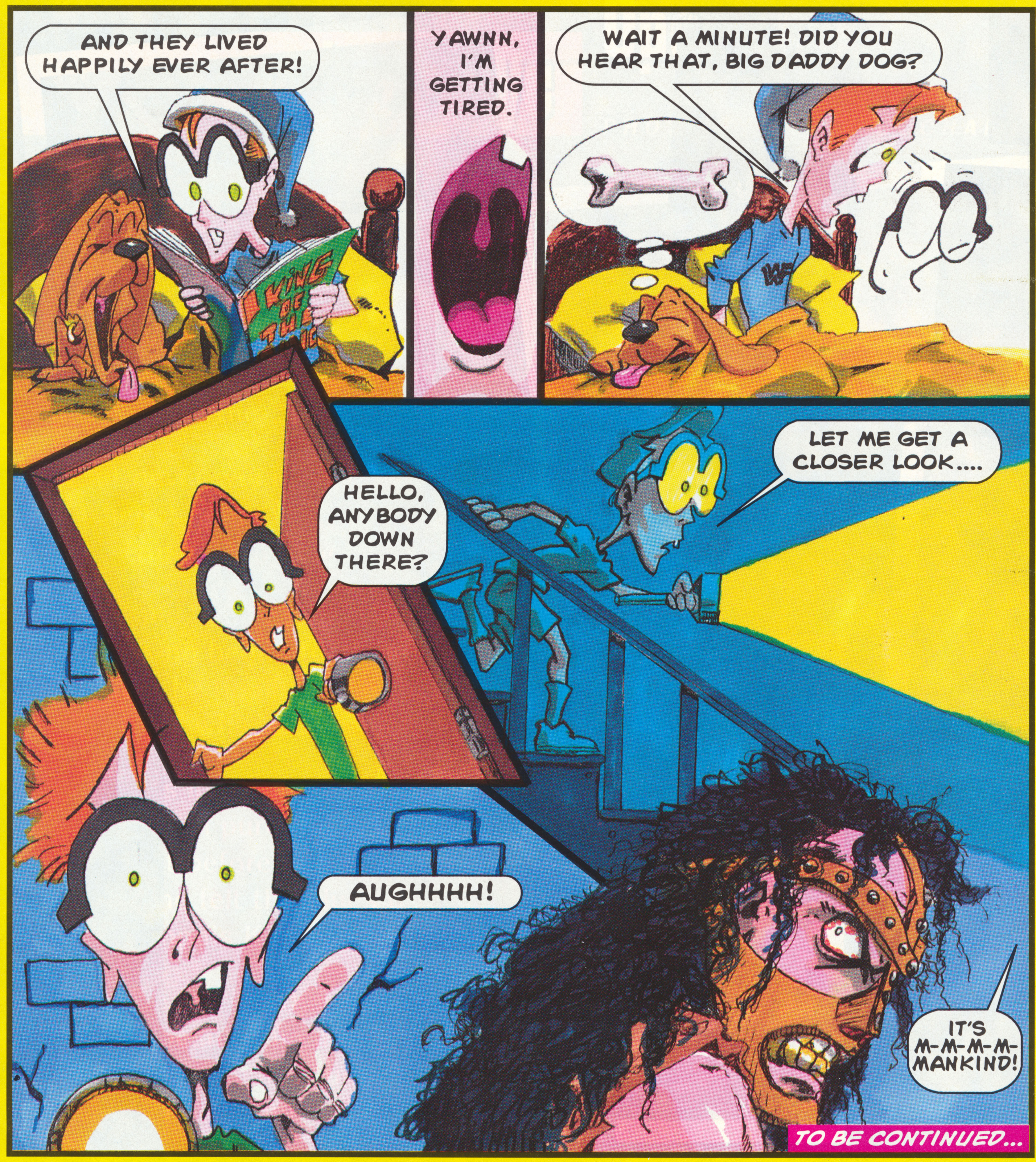
He was in a squared circle,
filled with pure, filled with
white, but before he knew what
hit him, he felt the blues of the
Memphis King's bite!

Where am I? What is this?
It doesn't ring a bell!
This ain't no barbecue King...
it's your new home called Hell!

SCOOP SULLIVAN

ARTIST HOWARD M. COLBERT
WRITER VINCE RUSSO

SQUARED CIRCLE SUPERHERO


AND THEY LIVED HAPPILY EVER AFTER!
KING OF THE
YAWNN, I'M GETTING TIRED.
WAIT A MINUTE! DID YOU HEAR THAT, BIG DADDY DOG?
LET ME GET A CLOSER LOOK....
HELLO, ANYBODY DOWN THERE?
AUGHHHH!
IT'S M-M-M-M-MANKIND!
TO BE CONTINUED...

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